

# British anger at Paris deal with Iranians

## Whitehall believes action may encourage terrorists

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent and Robin Oakley, Political Editor

There was controlled anger in Whitehall last night over France's decision to allow an Iranian terrorist suspect, who had been holed up in his country's embassy in Paris since July, to return to Tehran 48 hours after two French hostages had been released by a pro-Iranian group in Lebanon.

From Mrs Thatcher down, the British Government was privately seething at what Ministers believe to have been a French Government deal to secure the release of its two hostages.

But publicly Ministers were accepting French explanations

at face value and avoiding re-iterations.

British officials saw it as part of a barely disguised deal which broke the spirit, if not the letter, of international agreements to stand firm against terrorism.

They were angry because they believe that the French

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actions have placed Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy who has been held in the Lebanon since last January, in greater danger than he has ever been.

They also believe that their own carefully laid plans to demonstrate to the kidnappers that there was no concession to be wrung from the British Government by his continued detention have been undermined by the French crumbling in the face of media pressure. European solidarity was essential to the British strategy.

Officially, Britain accepted French assurances that Mr Wahid Gerdji was not traded for a French first secretary, M Paul Torri, who had been unable to leave the French Embassy in Tehran. But the official view was for public appearances only.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, was said to be furious, and was constrained from saying so only out of fears that it could make matters worse for Mr Waite.

Britain's whole strategy for obtaining his release may have been undermined by what some were calling "the French cave-in".

The exchange (though Paris denied it was that) of Mr Gerdji for M Torri ended a diplomatic impasse in which the French Embassy in Tehran and the Iranian Embassy in Paris were under siege for five months.

Mr Gerdji, described as an Iranian interpreter without diplomatic status but in fact Iran's number two in France, had been wanted for questioning by a French judge in connection with a series of terrorist bombings in Paris in September, 1986.

It was his refusal to leave

the embassy and Tehran's support of him, by putting pressure on M Torri, that led France to break relations with Iran.

Mr Gerdji was flown from Paris to Karachi, while M Torri travelled from Tehran to the Pakistani city. The two men then returned to their home capitals. Each had made a brief—and probably token—appearance before the other's judicial authorities before leaving.

Exasperated British officials saw this as a paper-thin cover for a deal. They said it would embolden the captors of Mr Waite.

The strong concern expressed privately contrasted with the cautious diplomatic language of Britain's official response.

After a breakfast meeting with M Jean-Bernard Raimond, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said he accepted French assurances.

"It is not for me to comment on the findings of judicial authorities in other countries," Sir Geoffrey commented.

Sir Geoffrey's words steered clear of a public dispute with Paris.

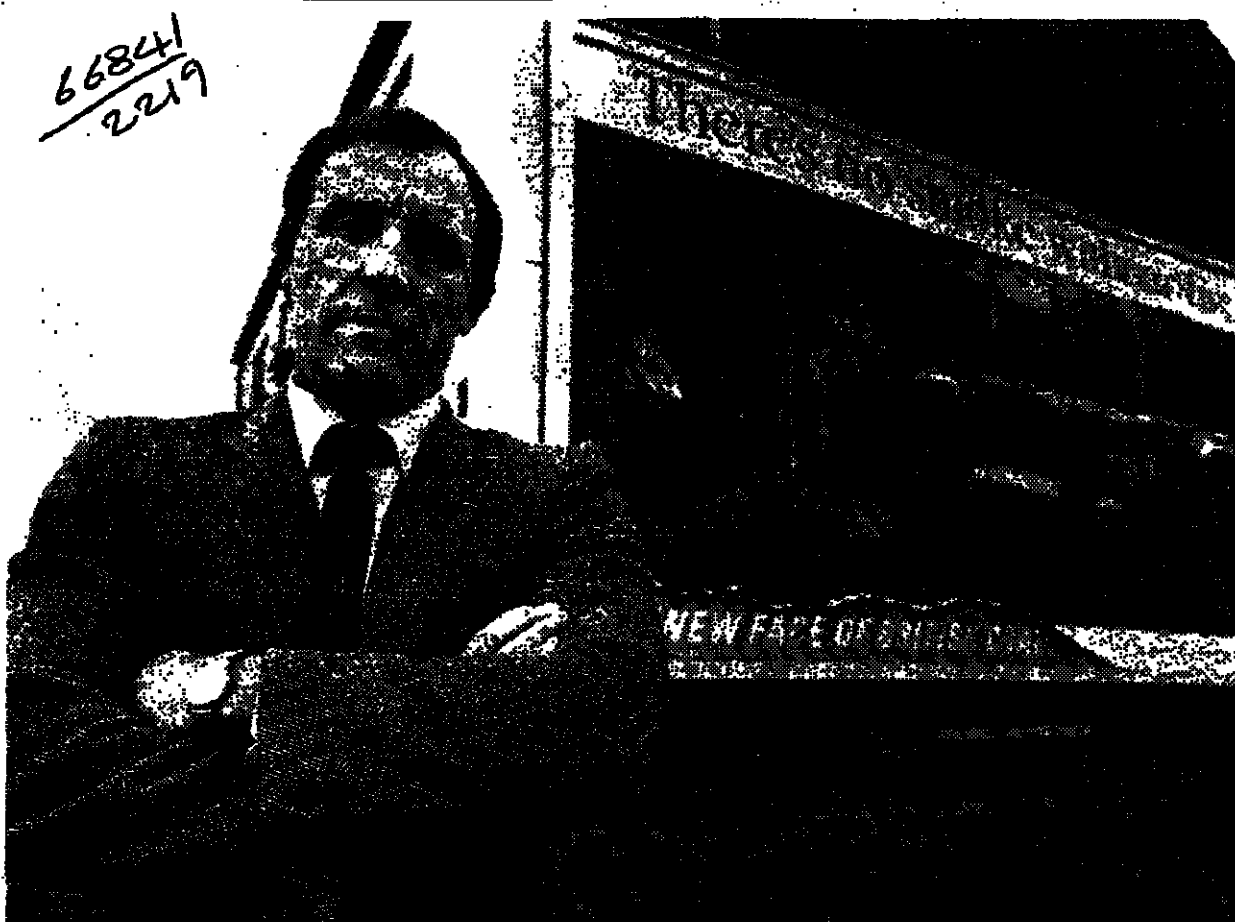
France now stands all but accused of having broken two international commitments. At the European summit in London last December the 12, including France, undertook to make "no concessions under duress to terrorists or their sponsors".

More recently, at the Group of Seven summit in Venice on June 9, France was one of the signatories to a declaration on terrorism, reaffirming its opposition to making concessions.

Archbishop Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said yesterday there should be no deal with Iran for the release of Mr Terry Waite.

Dr Runcie, who disclosed his own hard line after a meeting in London with Mr Norman Willis, general-secretary of the TUC, said: "I am, of course, delighted that two of the French hostages have been released, but the exact circumstances of their release are not yet clear to me."

## Campaign launched at the Four Ferrets pub



Mr Walsh beside a British Coal poster outside the Four Ferrets public house yesterday. (Photograph: Graham Wood)

## Walsh begins Scargill fight

By Tim Jones

The man who wants to be the new leader of the National Union of Mineworkers launched his campaign yesterday outside his first rallying point, the Four Ferrets public house in Castleford—with a British Coal poster as a backdrop.

Mr John Walsh, who is fighting Mr Arthur Scargill for the presidency of the union, was adamant he needed no lessons in solidarity from his fellow Yorkshireman. "I was born into a family of 10 in a two up two down house with the lavatory about ten miles away so I know as well as he does what it is all about."

It was the nearest Mr Walsh came to contempt for his opponent as he outlined in West Yorkshire yesterday why he believes he should become the next leader.

Mr Walsh said of Mr Scargill's methods: "If you negotiate on the basis of all or nothing you tend to get nothing, and that is what has happened in the last five years."

Mr Walsh, the union's North Yorkshire agent, said he was as surprised as anyone by the president's decision to resign and seek re-election. There were, he said, many reasons why Mr Scargill "should be plunging the union into an expensive time-consuming election just now."

He said: "It will almost certainly divert the union's attention and resources away from the real problems that require immediate attention to protect our members' interests."

Accusing Mr Scargill of achieving nothing, Mr Walsh added: "The union needs to shake off the image that its attitudes are entrenched in outdated doctrine. We cannot ignore the position that we have been brought to by the events of the last four years."

In that time, the union had lost a bitter year-long dispute, seen its membership almost halved, failed to negotiate any pay rises and was divided over the issues of six-day working and a limited overtime ban.

Mr Walsh said that because of Mr Scargill's all or nothing style the union was being treated as irrelevant by British Coal and the Government. The union had to change its whole approach and he would open talks with the Union of Democratic Mineworkers.

He believes there are enough disillusioned members of his union to secure his victory. "I shall give Arthur a run for his money."

## Rate rises warning by Ridley

By David Walker  
Public Administration  
Correspondent

Some householders will pay much higher rates next year, Mr Nicholas Ridley admitted last night when he presented Parliament with details of the rate support grant settlement for 1988-89.

The Secretary of State for the Environment said rates in general should rise in line with the inflation level—around 4 per cent—but there would be significant variations.

Mr Ridley has refused, for example, to stop the London Fire Authority and the fire brigades in the big cities outside London being penalised for "overspending" and ratepayers in those areas will have to pay the price.

The local authority associations have predicted rate rises as high as 10 per cent.

The Government plans to distribute £13.7 billion worth of rate support grant to councils in England and Wales.

Some £3.5 billion will be in specific grants for law and order and urban development while £10 billion will be distributed in a block grant, leaving councils free to decide how they allocate it.

The Local Government Information Unit said last night the Government was underestimating by £2.3 million what councils needed to spend next year to keep up their programmes.

Parliament, page 4

## Share prices plunge as dollar hits new lows

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

"What we need now is some statement or action from the US to defend the dollar," said Mr Giles Keating of Credit Suisse First Boston.

Money market interest rates rose 0.5 per cent in New York, but then the Federal Reserve Board moved in to supply more money.

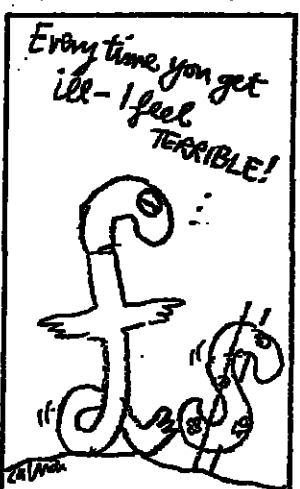
"The people who are most likely to invest the funds

needed to finance the American government are the most sensitive about whether the Americans are really going to do anything serious to cure their trade deficit," said Mr

Shares started falling in the Far East, dropping by 1 per cent in Tokyo. But there was a much bigger fall in London in expectation of further gloom in New York after the Thanksgiving holiday. The FT-SE 100 share index closed 71.7 points lower at 1,579.9.

On Wall Street, prices fell steadily and the Dow Jones index dropped by more than 4 per cent.

Yesterday's falls reflected cuts in US bond prices last week and growing doubts that the agreed US budget cuts would cure the budget and trade deficits or that there would be swift agreement between the seven leading industrial countries to redress international economic imbalances.



## Gorbachov seeks 50% missile cut

From Charles Bremner  
New York

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, in his first interview with an American television reporter, said he was hoping to negotiate a 50 per cent cut in long-range nuclear missiles with President Reagan. "We believe it is possible to do a lot of work with this present Administration... so that we could make headway on this major direction in the area of arms control."

Mr Gorbachov was combative, jocular and remarkably open in his hour-long talk with Mr Tom Brokaw of the "anchorman" for NBC television.

The Soviet leader answered questions on his wife, Raisa, saying: "We discuss everything," when asked if he discussed the highest state affairs with her.

Mr Gorbachov said he was going to Washington to change relations with the United States for the better. He had received 80,000 letters asking questions such as "Now why can't we be allies?"

Mr Gorbachov said: "I believe that we must display greater respect for each other."

## Swap closes down options for Chirac

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

The first stage of the diplomatic ceasefire between France and Iran was completed yesterday in the unlikely surroundings of the VIP lounge at Karachi Airport in Pakistan.

Flanked by their respective consuls, M Paul Torri, the First Secretary at the French Embassy in Tehran, and Mr Wahid Gerdji, the Iranian official who left Paris on Sunday night, were briefly welcomed by representatives of the Pakistani Foreign Office before flying home.

The authorities, perhaps mindful of the terrorist attack at the same airport last year, had sealed off the entire area with troops and police. Now that the personnel exchange is over, work can begin to repair relations between the countries, formally broken off almost six months ago.

The "war of the embassies"

came to an end over the weekend with the painstakingly achieved deal by which two French journalists, held by pro-Iranian kidnappers in Beirut, were set free and Mr Gerdji was allowed to depart after being questioned by a Parisian judge about terrorist bombing incidents in the capital last year.

Although French Government sources refused to speculate publicly about what comes next, there are persistent reports that an agreement involving the three remaining French hostages in Lebanon—two diplomats and a journalist—is now on the agenda.

In the view of most observers here, the next stage of this delicate operation poses much higher risks to the Government of M Jacques Chirac.

The French Prime Minister has already made it clear that

Continued on page 24, col 4

## 2,300 school jobs cut to save £35m

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Nearly 1,000 teachers and lecturers and 1,300 clerical, administrative and manual staff are to lose their jobs in Manchester's education department over the next two years to save £35 million.

The plans, which are in a confidential report yet to go before councillors, are part of a cost-cutting exercise to reduce the city's £110 million budget deficit.

The education department is only the first of 16 departments in which heavy cuts are being planned by the council treasurer, Mr Peter Short.

Councillors have a fortnight to decide to implement the cuts. However, they are understood to have no choice but to accept the scheme which will close eight special schools and at least one sixth-form college, will cut music teaching by 40 per cent, and worsen pupil-teacher ratios.

## Poles reject reforms

From Richard Bassett  
Warsaw

The Polish Government's attempt to harness through a referendum popular support for "radical" economic reform ended in failure yesterday.

Despite earlier official predictions that the Government would have a "slight but comfortable" majority supporting its call for reform—which would involve dramatic price rises in the New Year—only 44.28 per cent of those eligible to vote endorsed the motion in a poll which had a 68 per cent turnout, according to provisional figures.

Only two per cent more voted for the second part of the referendum, calling for "more democratisation". Although initially the Government had said it would require 51 per cent to go ahead with its "radical" reforms, it was unclear yesterday how it would react to the result.

Mr Joe Lowry, Manchester spokesman for the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, said: "If these cuts go ahead, they will damage Manchester education irreparably. Unfortunately, Labour is the ruling group and we will have to go along with them."

## Widow gives £100million art treasures to City

By Lynda Mordin

As quietly as it was assembled, a private collection of Dutch seventeenth-century paintings, possibly worth £100 million, was yesterday given to the Corporation of the City of London and will go on exhibition at the Mansion House.

The highlight of the 83 works collected by Lord Samuel of Wych Cross, who died in August, is "The Merry Lute Player" by Frans Hals, estimated at £3 million, although it could fetch far more at auction.

Yesterday's surprise announcement revealed publicly for the first time the full extent of Lord Samuel's very private collection, never exhibited in public.

There is another painting by

Hals, "Boy Playing a Guitar", and other well-known artists represented in the unexpected treasure trove include Jan Brueghel, Albert Cuyp, Pieter de Hooch and Jan Steen.

The works, kept in the family home in Sussex, were bequeathed by Lord

Photographs 3

Samuel, chairman of Land Securities Investment Trust, to his widow to be enjoyed during her lifetime and thereafter to the City Corporation. But Lady Samuel decided she would pass on the pictures without delay; the arrangement will be finalized by the Court of Common Council on Thursday.

"I have had the pleasure of them for 35 years", Lady Samuel said. "This is

what my husband wanted, that the collection should remain together and be on display at the Mansion House."

Preceded by great secrecy, the gift to be known as the Harold Samuel Collection, was announced at a luncheon at the Mansion House where Sir Robert Bellinger, the former Lord Mayor, described it as "the greatest gift of art ever conveyed to the Corporation of the City of London."

Lord Samuel, who made his first purchases after the Second World War, was advised by Mr Edward Speelman, now retired as a dealer in Old Masters. Mr Speelman recalled yesterday how some 25 years ago he bought "The Merry Lute Player" in a telephone bid to New York, the world's first purchase by transatlantic telephone. The price was \$600,000.

"It was a very private collection. He did not buy for show at all, he bought for his own pleasure," Mr Speelman said. "It is hard to say what it would be worth."

Sir Roy Strong, director of the V&A, said he thought the figure could be in excess of £100 million.

Preparations are being made for the paintings to hang at the Mansion House, which is accessible to the public by pre-arranged guided tours. In advance of that, there might be a special exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery.

Also in the collection are two Brazilian scenes "Brazilian Landscape with Native Figures" and "A Brazilian Village With Native Feast"—by Frans Post.

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مكتبة المصلح



## British Coal offer to build airport

British Coal is offering to build Sheffield a free airport if it receives permission to dig coal in an open cast mine. Coal chiefs say they can finance the project and have the airport ready in time for the World Student Games in 1991.

The £5 million project hinges on the open cast mine plan in the derelict Tinsley Park site, near the M1. If planning permission is granted, a runway will be built nearby to take aircraft capable of carrying up to 80 people.

Mr Tony Palmer, regional director of British Coal's open cast executive, said that by August 1989: "The area of the runway could be cleared, the coal would be out and it would be possible to hand over the prepared line of the runway and airport access road to be operational for the Games".

## Fine over dead fish

Maurice Maxstead, a pensioner whose garden pond leaked while he was away on holiday, was fined £25 with £75 costs yesterday for abandoning his fish.

Magistrates at Skegness, Lincolnshire, were told that eight fish died when the water level dropped.

Maxstead, aged 66, of Irby-in-the-Marsh, near Skegness, pleaded guilty to abandoning the fish in circumstances likely to cause their unnecessary suffering. He was in Canada when neighbours noticed a "dreadful" smell and alerted the RSPCA.

## Child sex charges

Two men from Congleton, Cheshire, faced fresh charges of sex offences against children when they made a second court appearance yesterday. Both men were remanded in custody by magistrates in Sandbach.

A man aged 47, charged last week with indecently assaulting a child of seven, faced additional charges of sexual offences against two children.

A man aged 43 already charged with indecently assaulting a girl aged six and a boy aged 10, was further charged with indecent assaults on two children.

## Drugs pupils expelled

Six pupils were expelled from the Rugby School after buying cannabis from a drugs dealer, Warwick Crown Court was told yesterday.

The pupils were cautioned by the police, but were ordered to leave the £1,700-a-term public school after staff helped detectives to track down the drugs dealer who, on occasions, sold cannabis in the school grounds from a tobacco tin.

Yesterday at the crown court, the dealer, Richard Spencer, aged 17, an apprentice tinsmith, of Firs Drive, Rugby, Warwickshire, was sentenced to three months detention and ordered to forfeit £100. He pleaded guilty to three charges of supplying cannabis resin.

## Editor chosen

Mr Magnus Linklater has been appointed as the new editor of *The Scotsman* newspaper.

Mr Linklater was editor of the *London Daily News*, which closed in July. He has also worked on the *Daily Express*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Observer*.

His appointment follows the resignation last month of Mr Chris Baur.

Journalists at the 170-year-old Edinburgh-based newspaper went on strike for three weeks earlier this year over staffing, working hours and the status of the paper.

## Rights removed

The European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism came into force at midnight yesterday in the Irish Republic. The convention removes the right of suspected terrorists to resist extradition by claiming that their alleged offences were political.

However, the minority government of Mr Charles Haughey is this week attempting to push through an amending Bill which will introduce new safeguards for Irish citizens wanted for trial in Britain or Northern Ireland.

## Boats stolen

Two friends stole boats to see a stunt for the BBC's *Children in Need* appeal on the Thames on Friday. They took a cabin cruiser and another boat from Hurlingham Yacht Club but were arrested before they reached the event organized by Anika Rice, the television presenter, which involved an orchestra and skating on a pontoon.

Paul Marsden, aged 21, a financial adviser, of Granville Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire, and Jonathan Kearsley, aged 22, employed, of Winston Park, Wimbledon, south-west London, were each fined £105 at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday. During the hearing they were ordered to the cells by the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, Sir David Hopkin, for laughing.

## Decision is likely on post action

By John Spicer

Leaders of the country's 165,000 postal workers could decide today what action they intend to take over their claim for a three-hour reduction in the working week.

Post Office managers and negotiators for the Union of Communication Workers spent yesterday assessing talks held throughout the weekend.

This morning the union general secretary, Mr Alan Tiffin, will be seeing Mr Bill Cockburn, the Post Office's letters director, in what could be a final meeting before action takes place.

Last night there was still some hope that talks could continue.

December 10 is the last day on which the union can call industrial action after the ballot, which gave officials a 55 per cent majority to go ahead with disruption of the Christmas mail. If some form of action is not taken by then, another ballot would have to be organized.

The Post Office has offered a one-hour reduction in the working week for postmen, women and sorters. The union is claiming a three-hour cut in the 43-hour week (which includes meal breaks).

A union official said last night: "Tomorrow is make or break day. At this moment, we simply do not know if the Christmas mail is likely to be disrupted."

If the talks are seen to have failed, the executive will consider selective action or an overtime ban. It has rejected an all-out strike.

Court number eight has been transformed by an array of screens, which make it look like the control room of a major space mission rather than Regina v. Adelfa and Others.

## Move on change of law firm rules

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The first sign that the Government may proceed with legislation to enable solicitors to take over the profession in mixed practices has come in a paper released by the Scottish Office.

There is widespread opposition to the proposal among solicitors. The paper sets out proposals from Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland, to allow Scotland's 5,000 solicitors to form practices with members of other professions, such as accountants.

It says the change would meet the wishes of some clients for "one-stop shopping" and could lead to increased business for solicitors.

Comments are invited from the profession to be submitted by the end of this month.

The paper comes as the Law Society in England and Wales is about to make a decision on whether to allow solicitors to form mixed partnerships. The issue has divided solicitors.

The Law Society council is to make a decision next

# Tube staff 'carrying metal straps as weapons'

By Michael McCarthy

London Underground staff are so frightened of assaults that they carry the metal straps passengers hang from as weapons to defend themselves, a former guard said last night.

The straps are steel coils several inches long with a plastic ball at the end. If unscrewed and held in the hand they have a vicious whip-like action.

Mr Peter Brown, once a guard on the Northern line, said that he believed many

train drivers and guards routinely carried the straps in their shoulder bags because of the increasing number of assaults on staff.

In the first six months of this year there were 195 assaults on Underground staff compared with 170 in the same period in 1986.

Mr Brown, aged 40, said he gave up his guard's job earlier this year after working for six months because he was afraid of being assaulted after witnessing violent incidents on "virtually every trip".

Shortly before leaving, he said, a metal strap that had been unscrewed by an aggressive passenger was handed in to him. He went to the staff canteen of an Underground station to ask colleagues what he should do with it.

"There were about twelve staff sitting there, drivers and guards, and to my amazement they all showed me their shoulder bags and every single one of them had a metal strap in", he said. "They all said they carried them for self-defence. It is done pretty generally now."

London Regional Transport said last night that they would look into the allegation. "The carrying of the metal straps as weapons would of course be illegal and we would in no way condone it", a spokesman said.

Mr Brown said his experiences as a guard had convinced him there was now "a complete breakdown of law and order" on the Underground. "People are often very frightened", he said.

"At night the back cab — where the guard is — is full of women who are extremely

frightened and just want to know someone is there. Every time we were running there was an incident. On many occasions I saw gangs assault people and they usually got away with it. London Regional Transport seem to think the problem is not there."

LRT said last night that the London Underground was "not special" in its crime rates. "Crime exists on the Underground because it is part of London and London has worsening crime."

A £1.5 million scheme had

begun to install special radio facilities for British Transport Police in 42 selected Underground stations.

Provision of the system was the main recommendation of a Department of Transport report on crime on the Underground published a year ago. It will enable police to communicate directly to their control room.

Other recommendations in the report, such as the installation of passenger alarms and closed-circuit television, were also to be implemented, LRT said.

## France may join UK over missile

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The possibility of Britain and France collaborating over a nuclear air-launched missile for the RAF's Tornado aircraft is to be discussed at a meeting this month between Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, and his French counterpart, M. André Giraud.

The Ministry of Defence is looking at the best option for replacing the RAF's WE177 free fall nuclear bombs, which are about 20 years old.

According to a recent American report, Britain holds 385 of the WE177 bombs, including 140 of the nuclear depth charge variant.

The bombs will have to be replaced by the mid 1990s. The studies are looking at a stand-off tactical nuclear missile which an RAF strike force would launch from up to 300 miles away, making the aircraft less vulnerable to air defence counter-attack.

Mr Younger will meet M. Giraud in Paris for more discussion on collaborating with the French over their air-launched cruise missile, the ASMP, which entered service last year.

However, the current version, which costs about £4 million each, only has a range of 186 miles. Collaboration would involve a longer-range missile, with Britain producing its own warhead.

Ministry of Defence sources said yesterday the modernization of the RAF's nuclear capability would have been carried out irrespective of the superpower agreement to remove intermediate range (INF) missiles from Europe, to be signed in Washington.

There was no question of Britain trying to circumvent the INF treaty. Air-launched missiles were not covered by the agreement.

● The issue of Nato's nuclear modernization programme, due after the INF agreement comes into operation, may be raised by the Russian leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, during his three-hour meeting with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, RAF Brize Norton next Monday.

## Science is 'downgraded by the pursuit of affluence'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The low level of spending on research is depriving scientists of the tools of their trade, without which basic knowledge can not be improved, the President of the Royal Society said yesterday.

Sir George Porter, FRS, predicted dire consequences for industry and the economy, when he said "no great industrial nation has been able to succeed for long without a strong indigenous scientific base".

In his annual address on the state of health of science in Britain, Sir George, a Nobel prizewinner for chemistry, said: "The simple logic is that one cannot apply science if one has no science to apply".

His main criticism was aimed at the management of the funding of research and development.

He said: "While in other respects the United Kingdom is prospering, it seems that the pursuit of natural knowledge is to be allowed to diminish."

"Worse still, it seems this is not through an oversight, nor even principally through a desire to economize, but a deliberate policy of the downgrading of the pursuit of knowledge for the pursuit of affluence."

On levels of funding, he observed that total government spending on research and development, as a proportion of gross domestic product, was comparable with other countries. Yet the amount spent on improvement of natural knowledge, or strengthening the country's science base, was very small.

He suggested there was a confusion between essentially different activities which flourished in different environments.



Sir George Porter, President of the Royal Society: "One cannot apply science if one has no science to apply".

ished in different environments.

One grew from the ideas of talented individuals who were given the freedom and independence to work in finding

new knowledge. The other was directed research, often by an interdisciplinary team, including those experienced in markets and finance as well as technology.

## Transport union's hard-left suffer severe blow

By Roland Rudd

The hard-left in the Transport and General Workers Union suffered a severe blow yesterday when the general executive council reaffirmed the appointment of Mr Ken Reid, a leading supporter of Mr Neil Kinnock, as secretary of the London-based Region One.

Sixty hard-left union members took the unprecedented step of picketing yesterday's executive meeting. The union's hard-left maintained Mr Reid's appointment was unconstitutional and should be nullified.

The union's Region One committee wanted their regional organizer, Mr Barry Camfield, campaign manager for Mr Ron Todd during the 1985 elections for general secretary, installed.

The *Times* has obtained a copy of a letter sent out by the chairman of Region One, Mr Dominic Rohan, calling on members of his trade group to defy the general executive's decision to choose Mr Reid as the next secretary of London region, representing 350,000.

In his letter, Mr Rohan calls on his members to picket the union headquarters in Transport House in protest at the

"abuse of the selection procedure". The letter is being seized upon by the soft-left as further evidence of "the unconstitutional action taken by the hard-left".

The ruling soft-left group is convinced the moves are part of a co-ordinated campaign to unseat the leading moderate chairman of the union, Mr Brian Nicholson, in the union's January elections.

## Television disputes

## TV-am 'trying to smash union power'

By John Spicer

Leaders of the TV-am technicians in Wales were yesterday given a warning that Britain's largest trade union would no longer tolerate "anti-union no-strike agreements" (Roland Rudd writes).

Mr George Wright, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union in Wales, said Japanese companies had been given the wrong impression by the Government that they "did not have to recognize unions, except for tame, membered unions who

agreed to sell their members' rights in exchange for bosses' agreements". He was referring to the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU).

Mr Wyn Evans, the Wales EETPU leader, described Mr Wright's attack as "desperation from a union leader who is losing members".

Transport union leaders are to meet the Japanese Ambassador next month to discuss the union's opposition to no-strike agreements.

In the street outside the studios yesterday, members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT), the union representing the 229 technicians involved in the dispute, said that the Australian-born Mr Gyngeff worked in a similar way to Mr Rupert Murdoch and they saw the dispute developing in the way that led to the defeat of the print unions after News International moved to Wapping.

One said: "Make no mistake, this is the crunch". Mr Davidovitz, who joined

TV-am from Central TV in August, said he would not rule out the possibility of dismissal notices being sent to the technicians involved.

Talks involving ACTT officials and two other television companies were also going on yesterday.

Tyne Tees Television was trying to solve its problems involving the dismissal of 39 electricians over another manning dispute.

At Thames Television a union was at the centre of a dispute over alleged vote-rigging after workers accepted, then rejected, cost-cutting measures.

The voting involved 190 members of the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance who met to consider demands by management for more flexible meal breaks and an end to payments for time spent travelling to outside locations.

Initially, they voted in favour of the company's demands, but then, for no apparent reason, a second vote was held and they voted against by a majority of six. "It seems highly suspicious", one Thames executive said.

Continental Ceramics met with similar mixed fortunes at Christie's where there were some good prices in spite of 32 per cent being unsold. The top price was for an Isotrite, or plate telling a story, from Urbino, showing Marcus Curtius preparing to save Rome by leaping into the chasm which has opened before him. It was bought for £6,050.

## Inquiry halted as 'scuffle' doctor is sick

An inquiry into a scuffle between two surgeons during an operation, was held up yesterday because one of them, Dr George Jacobs, was sick.

The inquiry was ordered by the Arrowe Park Hospital, Birkenhead, Merseyside, after Dr Jacobs received minor injuries when Mr Robert Johnson walked into a theatre and complained that Dr Jacobs was running late.

## Drilling begins today on Channel tunnel

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Work will start today at Shakespeare Cliff, near Dover, on boring for the 50-kilometre Channel tunnel, which is scheduled to open into service in 1993.

It is being carried out by Transmanche-Link (TML), an Anglo-French consortium of 10 construction companies which are building it for Eurotunnel, the owners and operators.

The tunnel will be bored from both sides of the Channel but, for technical reasons, the French will not start drilling until March. Mr John

Reeve, director-general of the British side of TML, said that the distance bored from the French side would be less than that from the British side because of more difficult geological conditions near Calais.

Construction costs are estimated at £2,700 million but Eurotunnel has raised about £6,000 million to cover interest charges on loans, inflation, owners' costs, and to provide a reserve of £1,000 million until the tunnel starts to generate revenue.

Channel vision, page 21  
Offer shortfall, page 21

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

## High-tech courtroom put on trial in fraud case

A complicated fraud case at the Central Criminal Court is testing a computerized evidence system which reproduces documents or photographs from optical disc at the touch of a keyboard.

The case, involving five south London defendants in an alleged £200,000 fraud, was chosen by the Crown Prosecution Service as the first to operate the semi-electronic court room.

Court number eight has been transformed by an array of screens, which make it look like the control room of a major space mission rather

than Regina v. Adelfa and Others.

The system may be the first of its type in the world although the Mafia trials in Italy have already used computers to store evidence.

The use of the equipment, at a cost of up to £35,000, is estimated to have cut the length of the case from nine months to six. More than 5,000 documents and 500 pictures put together by officers from divisional CID at Croydon have been copied on to seven optical discs, from which details are read by laser.

Instead of producing each

piece of evidence individually the court is shown the documents on television-sized screens and details can be highlighted by enlargement.

Actual documents can also be produced from the paper files separately.

In normal circumstances the jury would have started the trial with 17 bundles of documents each. Instead they have been given four slim volumes of key papers with the rest on screen.

If, for example, they are examining evidence of bank accounts they can turn to outline details of an account in

the file before them and then look at cheques on screen.

Evidence can be shown to the court by using a special television camera, and the court system can also be used to show evidence from abroad by telephone line.

The system being tried is a development of one of the recommendations of the Roskill report on the handling of fraud cases. The report called for the use of technology to speed up the mammoth task of dealing with complicated fraud.

So far, the system has

pleased police and barristers in the case. Yesterday Mr Allan Green, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, said the case showed an attempt to make the best use of the latest technology, "to present the evidence to the jury in the most comprehensible and vivid way".

He said the results would be carefully evaluated.

So far there has been little reaction from the jury in court number eight apart from a complaint of eye strain because of brightness. Filters have been added to their screens.

JP 11-6-150



# Parent power blow to Baker as few attend meetings

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Only 15 per cent of parents of schoolchildren on average attended meetings this year intended by the Government to increase parent power in schools, according to a survey by a parent-teacher organization.

The survey, by parents in Cheshire, recommends that schools work harder to provide added attractions at meetings such as cheese-and-wine parties and exhibitions of children's work.

The meetings were held by school governing bodies for the first time this year under legislation introduced last year.

In Cheshire, the county's federation of PTAs sent schools a questionnaire which, they say, had shown that less than a quarter of the county's schools managed to muster a quorum.

The average attendance at the annual meetings was 15 per cent, but the Act defines 20 per cent as a quorum, and at some schools no parents came while only one secondary school managed a quorum.

The Cheshire PTA federation found that the smaller the school, the more likely parents were to attend the annual meeting. They also found that

governors' reports, also required by the 1986 Act, were usually "brief, dull and just about fulfilled the letter of the law".

The National Federation of Parent Teacher Associations last night reported that the same pattern of low attendance was being seen at parents' meetings all over the country.

Nearly every county or education authority could point to at least one school where no parents turned up to the meeting or where only one or two turned up, and it seemed certain that a small minority of schools had achieved a quorum of 20 per cent of parents.

Miss Sheila Naylor, for the federation, said: "It has been very common for the people on the platform — the head, governors and local authority representatives — to outnumber the people on the floor".

However, the federation does not regard the low turnout as a bad sign but expects more parents to come as the practice becomes established.

Putting the Government's proposals for schools to opt out of local authority control into practice will be very difficult, according to the

Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants.

The institute believes that the Government will not, as plans stand, be able to prevent schools which remain in local authorities from being financially worse off when some opt out.

The institute yesterday published figures showing the wide variations between expenditure in different local authorities.

The amount spent on a secondary school pupil ranges from £2,635 in the Inner London Education Authority to £1,394 in the Conservative-controlled borough of Merion, south-west London.

The institute's figures also show that some authorities spend up to 10 times as much as others on school books. In Kingston upon Thames, which is Conservative, £142.40 is spent on books and equipment for each secondary school child while in Labour North Tyneside only £14.90 is spent.

Only 0.6 per cent of people who have sent responses to the Inner London Education Authority are in favour of the Government's proposals to allow boroughs to take control of local schools and colleges.

Nearly two thousand of the individuals and organizations who responded to the Department of Education and Science's proposals during the consultation period this summer also sent copies to the

In an analysis of these responses, the institute announced yesterday that 98.4 per cent of them were in opposition to the proposals, 1 per cent could not offer a considered response in the given period and only 0.6 per cent were in favour.

More than a third of the responses were from parents writing as individuals and not as representatives of parents' organizations. Only 0.3 per cent of these supported the Government's plan.

Schools in Mr Baker's constituency will be discouraged by Conservative councillors from taking up his offer of direct funding.

Mrs Jill Sibthorp, education chairman of Surrey County Council, which covers Mr Baker's Mole Valley constituency, issued the warning yesterday.

She said that if schools in Surrey opt out of county control "it could have serious implications for Surrey's ability to plan for the needs of all its pupils and to allocate resources evenly and fairly across the county".

## City given telephone-bid painting



The first painting to be bought at auction with a transatlantic telephone bid, "The Merry Little Player", by Franz Hals (left), is one of the collection of 83 pictures given to the Corporation of the City of London by Lord Samuel of Wych Cross (above).

Lord Samuel, who made the bid 25 years ago, was the chairman of Land Securities Investment Trust. The paintings, including works by the Brueghels and Pieter de Hooch, have been handed to the corporation by his widow.

## Portfolio Gold

### Never give up, says winner

The winner of yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000 is Mr Said Zaidi, who has read *The Times* for the past 10 years and been playing the game since it started.

Recently he had grown despondent about not winning and checked his numbers half-heartedly. Yesterday, though, he was after being forced to check his card by his wife, Nasim. He claimed his prize within four minutes of the deadline.

Mr Zaidi had a message for fellow Portfolio players: "Never give up, keep checking. We never thought we would be this lucky. It must be fate."

Mr Zaidi, aged 48, of Chertsey Street, Tooting, south-west London, owns a small fabric shop.

He will spend part of his prize on renovating his kitchen and bathroom. He would also like a holiday but does not yet know where he would go. "I'm still in shock," he said.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.



Mr Zaidi: Wife made him check his Portfolio card.

## Professor differs on maths teaching

A government-appointed working party on mathematics in the proposed national curriculum has failed to address properly the most urgent problems surrounding the subject, according to a senior member of the working party (Sarah Thompson writes).

It is understood that one of the working party's main tasks, the setting of attainment targets for children of seven, 11, 14 and 16, has not been fulfilled because of disagreements within the group.

Professor Sigbert Prais, senior research fellow at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, yesterday blamed the influence of the "educational establishment" in hindering the working group from setting targets at which teachers could aim.

He delivered his own "dissenting" report as the working party presented its interim report to Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science. That

report, Professor Prais said, would be a disappointment to Mr Baker.

The report is understood to be partly an endorsement of the progressive type of mathematics teaching which Mr Baker is concerned to limit.

Professor Prais said: "The working party's report does not come to grips with the problem of finding a way to help teachers to know what is to be learnt, as teachers do in France and Germany. It has not adequately addressed itself to the problem of instituting targets and tests."

Some members of the working party were opposed to the basic concept of attainment targets for specific age groups and the dissent had led to the production of a bland report that skirted difficult issues.

Quite simply, Professor Prais said, the working party had not made up its mind on these issues because it was "too much dominated by the producers, not the consumers of education".

## Cleveland child abuse inquiry

### Early diagnosis vital, academic says

By Peter Davenport

A leading professor of psychiatry told the Cleveland child sexual abuse inquiry yesterday of the lasting and catastrophic effects suffered by many of its victims.

They were not merely confined to feelings of guilt, self-reproach and humiliation, but could seriously damage or arrest the emotional development of individuals.

Early intervention in all

cases of sexual abuse might be the only way of averting lasting damage and psychiatric disorders as the abused child developed into a problem adult.

In evidence to the inquiry yesterday, Sir Martin Roth, emeritus professor of psychiatry at Cambridge University Clinical School, said that victims could find themselves unable to form normal, per-

sonal and sexual relationships or to be happy in marriage.

Their emotional capacity to rear their own children could suffer lasting impairment.

"Those who have been intimidated by threats into incestuous relationships in childhood proved to be at high risk of abusing their own children, thus transmitting the effects of deprivation," he said.

Some estimates said that up

to half the victims had suffered lasting psychological damage, mainly among those subjected to the more violent and intrusive forms of abuse.

Sir Martin said that the shame and humiliation experienced by families when incest is uncovered had made it difficult to conduct investigations into its prevalence.

Some research had estimated that approximately 10 per cent of girls experience some kind of sexual abuse, he said.

The perpetrators of child abuse were usually damaged personalities who had themselves been sexually abused or treated brutally in their own childhood.

Sir Martin said that he had studied a small group of patients who had suffered from serious forms of sexual abuse and it had proved to be "invariably harmful and often to a destructive degree".

The inquiry continues to-day when Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, the second of the two Middlesex-borough consultant paediatricians at the centre of the crisis, begins his evidence.

## Police to work with social workers

Police in the West Midlands are to be told of every allegation of child abuse being investigated by social workers, under a joint new policy announced yesterday (Craig Seton writes).

The new agreement between senior police officers and the directors of seven social services departments in the region has led to the appointment of 32 specially trained policemen and policewomen to investigate child abuse.

Those child liaison officers will work from the force's 11 divisional headquarters with social workers involved on

cases of sexual and non-sexual abuse of children.

In 1985-86 there were an estimated 2,500 cases of alleged child abuse in the West Midlands region.

The new policy, announced yesterday, will give the police child liaison officers access to all social workers' child abuse case conferences and lead to joint interviewing of victims.

Miss Christine Walby, director of social services for Solihull, speaking for all seven social services districts, said: "This is the first time in a force area of this size that all

districts have come together and forged a joint statement.

"It will ameliorate some aspects of the Cleveland situation in that investigations will be co-ordinated in a way that it was alleged did not happen there. Families will benefit from a co-ordinated investigation."

Mr Alan Elliott, assistant chief constable, said: "We have established a structure of consultation and co-operation.

"Decisions will be made jointly at every stage of investigations. The interests of the child are paramount."

## Mercury go-ahead will end call box monopoly

By Joe Joseph

The only company licensed by the Government to compete with British Telecom, Mercury Communications, has been given the go-ahead to provide rival public telephone boxes, ending Telecom's monopoly on the service.

The first of the new call boxes will be installed in central London, probably in the West End, next year. The service will be extended to other parts later, depending on public demand.

Call charges are unlikely to top Telecom's tariff, but will not necessarily be cheaper.

Mercury Communications said yesterday: "The cost is secondary to people who are basically looking for a reliable, working service". Payment will be by coin and credit cards, although Mercury hopes to move swiftly to cashless operation.

The decision to offer telephone users a rival public call service is the latest attempt by Ofel, the telecommunications industry watchdog, to keep Telecom on its toes.

It follows a wave of complaints about poor Telecom service and the results of a

survey which showed that nearly a quarter of call boxes were out of order at any time.

Telecom, which lost £40 million on its call box operations last year and which is spending £160 million to bring the much-criticized service up to scratch, said: "We welcome the competition, providing it is fair and providing Telecom is not left to service all the rural and unprofitable boxes."

Speaking at the Telecommunications Users' Association annual conference in London yesterday, Professor Bryan Carsberg, Ofel's director-general, said Mercury "still has to agree guidelines with me for deciding when it should install public call boxes."

"I am aware that it will not be possible for Mercury to provide a nationwide service immediately. However, I recognize the need for competition to be fair and I would not wish to see the introduction of Mercury's call boxes in London lead to the closure of unprofitable boxes by Telecom elsewhere in the country."

## £25m airline campaign

### Better deal for businessmen

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways yesterday launched a £25 million campaign to attract more businessmen to club class flights.

A new package will include a parking valet service at Heathrow, a more comfortable seat, a segregated club cabin, improved catering and a telephone booking service linked to hotels around the world.

Business travellers now account for 40 per cent of all passengers on British Airways flights. They pay higher prices and demand a service to match.

The airline has studied the profile of the typical business passenger, one in five of whom are now women. They

are usually in their 40s, earn more than £35,000 a year and fly on business more than 20 times a year.

"These sophisticated successful people have earned their status. We in turn must earn their respect by offering a service to match", Mr Jim Harris, the airline's marketing director, said.

The new service will be introduced on both intercontinental and European flights from January 1. There will be no rise in club class fares.

Forty-five British Euro MPs yesterday joined the controversy over the battle for British Caledonian by backing the proposed link between the

Garwick-based company and the Scandinavian Airlines System.

Mr Madron Seligman, MEP for West Sussex, which includes Garwick, said yesterday: "All the members of our group in Europe are agreed that the proposed merger between British Caledonian and SAS would be good for the company".

The Office of Fair Trading is likely to report to Lord Young of Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, today on the proposed SAS bid, and he is expected to make a final decision on whether it should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission later in the week.

## Surgical team 'on loan' Drive to clear waiting lists

By Sam Kiley

A specialist ear nose and throat surgical team arrived in South Wales yesterday to clear waiting lists of 110 children before Christmas.

The children, some of whom have been waiting up to four years for routine operations, are being treated at a rate of 20 per day by the five members of the team from Coventry at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil.

## £650,000 award against hospital

A former hospital patient, who was paralyzed and lost his wife and his thriving sewing machine repair business, after hospital treatment went wrong, was yesterday awarded £650,000 agreed damages with costs (David Cross writes).

He had claimed negligence against the Central Birmingham Health Authority.

Mr John David Jones, aged 51, a resident of the Cotswolds Cheshire Home in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, underwent radiotherapy at Queen Elizabeth Hospital,

Edgbaston, for a tumour in the neck in 1975.

He claimed the treatment failed to take account accurately of the position of the spinal cord, causing it to receive an excessive dose of radiation.

The effects of the treatment were that Mr Jones can do practically nothing for himself. He is just able to move his toes and has great difficulty in moving his arms and hands. The authority admitted liability.

After the settlement at the

High Court in Bristol yesterday, Mr Robin Otter, his solicitor, said that his client's marriage had broken up after a two-year separation because his wife was no longer able to cope with her husband's affliction.

Mr Justice Saville said: "The only bright spark in this very sad story would seem to be the indomitable spirit he has shown in battling this catastrophe, which totally changed his life."

Mr Jones said yesterday: "I never thought of giving up."

## Law firm taken to tribunal over job sex bias

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A firm of solicitors which invited "only intelligent, lively girls with personality, discretion and efficiency" to apply for jobs as litigation secretaries has been taken to task before an industrial tribunal under the sex discrimination laws.

Girling, Wilson and Harvie, of Kent, one of whose partners is a member of the Law Society council, found itself facing rather than bringing legal proceedings on this occasion at the hands of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

When the advertisement, published in the *Thames Times*, appeared, the commission investigated but found "both the advertiser and initially the publisher were unco-operative" in responding to its inquiries.

As a result, the commission decided it had no alternative but to go to court. But Girling, perhaps thinking that when it came to the law it knew best, stoutly defended the advertisement.

This was allowed, it claimed, under the certain exemptions under the Sex

Discrimination Act, including "decent, physical, and special care", which applied to the job in question.

The commission was unconvinced. Deciding the advertisement was "clearly contrary to section 38 of the Sex Discrimination Act" it started proceedings and at the last minute these were discontinued after capitulations all round.

Girling conceded that the advertisement was "unlawful" and that the commission was entitled to a decision from the tribunal to this effect.

Yesterday Mr A.G. McBride, one of the partners, said they would not be using the advertisement again. "We will not be contravening the legal requirements of the Act", he said.

But he added he thought it would be unusual in his part of the country if men wanted to apply for the job of litigation secretary.

The finding comes as a test case challenging the retirement age for women in the private sector comes before the House of Lords tomorrow.

The European Court of Justice will rule on Thursday in a key case over sex discrimination in pension schemes.

The test case, to enable women in the private sector to stay on at work until 65, the same retiring age as men, is being brought by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

The case is being brought by Mrs Peggy Duke, who was retired at 60 by Reliance Systems, part of the GEC group. She claims it discriminated against her because she was a woman.

Women working in the public sector have already won the right to retire at the same age as men, after a ruling won by Miss Helen Marshall, a retired National Health Service employee, who was forced to stop working before she wanted to on the basis that she was receiving a state pension at 60.

The Government was obliged to change the law outlawing compulsory retirement of women at 60. But the change does not affect the payment of state retirement pensions at different

ages for men and women, which is allowed by European law. The case will determine the important legal issue of whether Mrs Duke, as a private sector employee, is able to rely on European Community law in the same way that Miss Marshall did.

She will argue that she should have that remedy, and that she should be able to construe domestic law in the light of European Community law and obtain a similar ruling.

On Thursday the European Court of Justice will give an important ruling in a case brought by a bachelor who complains that a percentage of his gross pay was deducted to fund a widows' and children's pension fund.

In a move which is rare for a claim before the European Court, after the first hearing the case was re-argued before the full court because of the principles it raises; in particular whether the equality laws, and the "equal pay for work of equal value" principle, extends to cover contributory pension schemes and benefits.

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## PARLIAMENT

## Rate bills 'need rise by no more than inflation'

The rate-support grant settlement for next year means that on average rate bills need increase by no more than the rate of inflation, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said when he made a Commons statement of his proposals.

He emphasized that there could be big variations around the average.

"Clearly the actual level of rates will depend on the budgets of each individual local authority."

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that rate bills did not depend solely on local authority spending and that the Government had forced up the average ratepayers' contribution since 1978-79 by £4.91 a week as a result of changes in various grants.

Mr Ridley, in his statement, said that the main elements of his proposals for 1988-89 were that:

- local authority current expenditure provisions should be set at £27.538 million, a 7 per cent increase on the amount provided for 1987-88, allowing non-rate-capped authorities to hold their spending broadly steady in real terms;
- there should be a margin between the total of grant-related expenditure and expenditure provision to reflect his view that local authorities continued to spend more than they needed;
- aggregate Exchequer grant should be £13.775 million, a cash increase of £750 million, or 5.75 per cent, on 1987-88, holding grant at 46.2 per cent of relevant expenditure;
- there should be no big change in grant distribution mechanisms and only limited changes to methods of assessing needs;
- there should be a safety net equivalent to 5p at ratepayer level to prevent certain year-on-year grant losses and a cap of

## ENVIRONMENT

10p at authority level to limit grant gains.

He had considered all comments on his proposals carefully and considered that they struck the right balance, subject to minor changes of detail. The settlement provided realistically for expenditure, while making clear that the Government was not prepared to underwrite high spending and high wage increases.

"It includes a generous cash increase in the taxpayers' contribution to the running of local services, as I have already indicated, it maintains as much stability as possible in this, the penultimate year of the present system."

He ended with a hope that authorities would take advantage of their many opportunities

## Injured MP back soon

Dr John Cunningham, shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, was not present for Mr Ridley's statement. He is recovering at home after a weekend of minor accidents. On Saturday he cracked a tooth eating a piece of chocolate and on Sunday he damaged a rib while moving furniture. He expects to be back at the Commons "in a day or two".

to increase efficiency and make savings so as to keep rates down, adding that he would announce details to estimate the effects, but it was always possible to adjust matters in rate-support grants, if that was what they decided to do.

Mr Rooker said that the statement and its predecessors had damaged local government finance. Was it correct to assume that for local authorities to maintain their level of services next financial year would cost them £1,400,000 million and, if they did so, the Government grants would be reduced by £600 million?

Rates bills did not depend solely on local authority spending. He asked what had been allowed for the cost of starting the poll tax. The minister had had representations about that from Labour and Conservative councils.

He asked whether there was any provision for the cost of dealing with the October storm damage.

Local authorities, before setting their budgets, should know the grant rules and should not be presented with changes towards the end of a year.

All the evidence was that the poll tax system would be just as complicated as the present system.

Mr Ridley said, in answer to the question of whether the same level of service could be provided, that the provision was 7.1 per cent higher than 1987-88 and the settlement rate grant was 5.8 per cent higher than the gross grant for 1987-88. They did not yet know the loss of grant, but it was now running at £265 million.

"Taking that out of consideration, these are generous increases in provision and grant, and should enable local authorities to maintain current levels and to increase them slightly. I am afraid, because they are well above the rate of inflation."

Sufficient had been included to cover any cost in compiling a register for community charges. He had still not had information on the amount of costs of storm damage which local authorities might wish to capitalize and to receive additional capital allocations for. Until he had received that, it was impossible to estimate the effects, but it was always possible to adjust matters in rate-support grants, if that was what they decided to do.

He simply abided by statute in setting out criteria for each year. If he did it in advance, it would be a disaster for people to find ways of getting round the criteria.

Sir Ian Lloyd (Havant, C) said that Mr Ridley appeared to have announced an increase in



Mr Peter Bottomley (above), Minister for Roads and Traffic, demonstrating yesterday that his message that drinking and driving do not mix is not limited to car drivers (Rodney Cowan writes).

Launching a campaign by the brewers, Young & Co, to discourage drinking and

driving over the Christmas period, he arrived at a central London public house by a 100-year-old horse-drawn bus, but was careful to see that the two points of larger than the horse, Hope, received were non-alcoholic.

Young's is offering 25,000 one-zone free

London bus passes from December 21 to 31, to encourage customers to travel by bus rather than by car when they go for a drink. Mr Bottomley said: "I think Young's scheme is tremendous. Drinking and driving wrecks lives. It's not just me saying that, the brewers are saying it as well."

money, so how would he deal with the myth fostered by Labour that this represented a cut in public expenditure?

Mr Ridley said that he was beginning to learn that "cut" in Labour language meant that if you asked for a programme to be funded and it was only increased by 50 per cent, that was a cut of 50 per cent (laughter).

Mr Simon Hughes, Liberal spokesman on the environment, said that councils would not have the money to cater for the rising tide of homelessness.

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton, C) welcomed Mr Ridley's statement that he was not prepared to underwrite high spending. But would he deal with the loopholes local authorities were using to deal with rate-capping?

Mr Ridley agreed that the statement should discourage high spending. He had no evidence that authorities subject to rate limitation were using loopholes to get round it.

Mr John Fraser (Norwood,

Lab) said that authorities such as Lambeth found it difficult to keep their services going.

Mr Ridley said that other authorities with similar problems seemed able to manage to provide good services with much lower spending.

Mr Robin Squire (Hornchurch, C) said that Havering had been a low spending authority and yet its cash settlement for 1988-89 was no higher than the settlement for the current year.

Mr Ridley said that some authorities were much less fortunate than Havering and would actually lose grant. He hoped that Mr Squire would join him in the Aye lobby at the appropriate time so that "this silly system" could be swept away and replaced with a more sensible one based on the community charge.

Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said that Bradford was being penalized for trying to meet the needs of an increasing population and it faced the

prospect of being pole-axed by the poll tax.

Mr Ridley said that he found it extraordinary that Mr Madden dared complain when Bradford would be £60 million better off. Instead of gratitude, there were only words of gripe.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C) complained that the result of Conservative councils following government policies was that they were being docked more money.

Mr Peter Shore (Bethnal Green and Stepney, Lab) said that there were more than 1,000 homeless families in bed-and-breakfast accommodation in Tower Hamlets. What could be done to ease their plight?

Mr Ridley said that if Tower Hamlets did not increase its spending above the settlement assumption it would be able to reduce its rates.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) sought confirmation that neither the Department of the Environment nor the Treasury would make a profit out of the storm damage of October 15

from East Sussex County Council.

Mr Ridley said that he would be horrified and astonished if his department or the Treasury were to make a profit.

Ms Hilary Armstrong (Durham North West, Lab) wanted more help for areas which were not inner cities but had all the same problems as inner cities.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said that some parts of the country had greater needs than others. Liverpool, for instance, had lost between £500 million and £600 million in rate-support grant under this Government, yet the needs of Liverpool people were great and it was ridiculous to continue to rate-cap the city.

Mr Ridley said that the needs of Liverpool and other cities were assessed under grant-related expenditure assessment. Rate-capping would help Liverpool because if there were unrestrained rate rises there would be appalling damage in lost jobs and to industry and income.

## Aitken attack on spy tactics

Government tactics in the *Spycatcher* case came under attack from a group of Conservative MPs after Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, had repeated his belief in the life-long duty of confidentiality owed by members of the security services.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet South, C) said that they all agreed with the Government principle, but Sir Patrick made it sound as though the tactics were absolutely perfect.

"Surely the time has now come, if he is interested in avoiding a repetition of this expensive grand opera and legal folly which has characterized *Spycatcher* so far, to issue some new guidelines."

These should be not just to humble prosecutors but also to future Treasury solicitors, future law officers, Cabinet secretaries, even higher personages perhaps (Opposition cries of "Oh").

"Maybe these guidelines should be turned into a book then banned and turned into a best seller (laughter). We certainly need a change."

Sir Patrick: The line between tactics and strategy is notoriously difficult to define.

With regard to Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, which of course remains in force, work in hand, and has been for some time, of devising provisions which would be an effective and reasonable alternative.

It is not without difficulty.

Mr Graham Allen (Nottingham North, Lab) asked whether he would change his mind and allow *Spycatcher* to be published without restriction. There should be a public inquiry into the security services, which were meant to defend democracy and not undermine it.

Sir Patrick: No. The principle underlying the Government's litigation, here and elsewhere, is understood in the country.

Those who have served in the security services have a life-long duty of confidentiality to the Crown. That must be maintained. That is why the Government is bringing this litigation.

Mr Ivor Stansbrook (Orpington, C) said that one of the lessons to be learnt from the *Spycatcher* case was the need to revise the conditions of service of the members of MI5 to emphasize the duty of confidentiality being life long.

Sir Patrick: I note what he says and I note that that duty is brought to the attention of the Home Secretary. That the duty of confidentiality is life long is absolutely inherent in the obligation of those who serve the Crown for that service.

Mr Alexander Carlile, Liberal spokesman on legal affairs, said that decisions such as those in *Australia on Spycatcher* had in fact damaged the principle.

Throughout the common law jurisdiction, Sir Patrick's decisions and those of his predecessor had made the British common-law system the laughing stock of the common-law world.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, said that if there had been serious impropriety in the Government service or a serious breach of constitutional principle, what would the servant entitled to stop his lip and blow the whistle without fear of prosecution?

Sir Patrick said that there were procedures within the Civil Service for drawing attention to perceived improprieties. Each case turned upon its own circumstances.

Editor's evidence, page 5

## RAF 'may be used in Ethiopia'

The Government would want to consider "as a matter of urgency" any official request to use the RAF again to airlift relief supplies into Ethiopia, as had happened in 1985, Mr Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, said during Commons questions.

He added that the Government would respond "in due course" to an appeal by the United Nations Children's Fund for emergency relief supplies to be sent to Ethiopia — and to another appeal issued this week.

"We have, so far this year, provided over £23 million to assist towards Ethiopia. We have been in the van of efforts by the donor community to help that poor country."

Answering Mr Kevin Barron (Rother Valley, Lab), he reminded MPs that he had already announced that Britain would provide £2 million to help to support internationally organized airlifts in response to the present drought and risk of famine in Ethiopia.

Any unspent balance was to be used for other urgent famine needs.

## Channon speaks of air licensing power

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, has power to direct revocation of the licences of a British airline that is no longer British controlled, he said during question time, but refused to speculate how he might use that power if British Caledonian and a foreign airline merged.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, said that there was concern on both sides of the House and among consumers about a prospective merger of British Airways and B-Cal, resulting in a 93 per cent monopoly of British air traffic.

He asked Mr Channon to undertake on behalf of the Government that he would do nothing to interpose in commercial discussions between B-Cal and Scandinavian Airlines System or Air Europe, and to give those discussions a fair wind to provide Britain with an effective second force airline.

Mr Channon: I have not been approached. I am anxious to encourage fair competition between British airlines and to ensure that they are able to compete against foreign carriers. Any link with B-Cal should be looked at against that criteria.

Mr Robert Hughes, Opposition spokesman on transport, asked whether Mr Channon



Mr David Steel: Concern about merger.

agreed with Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, that a proposed link between SAS and B-Cal need not go to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. He added that it was ironic that the Government was relying on a 50 per cent state-owned airline to rescue a private company.

Mr Channon said that the commission was entirely a matter for Lord Young and nothing

## TRANSPORT

to do with him. Lord Young had no doubt receive advice from the Director General of Fair Trading.

"It is for the Civil Aviation Authority to advise me if a British airline is no longer UK controlled. I cannot speculate how I might then direct revocation of their licences, or otherwise."

Other transport questions included:

● Mr Channon said that he would be discussing the number of near-misses between aircraft, especially at London's Stoptol, with the chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority.

The issue was raised by Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West, Lab) who referred to an article in *The Observer* yesterday that mentioned several near-miss incidents that had gone unreported.

Mr Channon said that the CAA was satisfied with the situation at Stoptol, otherwise it would not have allowed it to proceed.

Mr Michael Colvin (Romney and Watlington, C) said that in 1976 there had been one near-miss for every 18,700 take-offs and landings of commercial aircraft. The figure last year was one for every 70,000, so it was

now four times safer to fly that it had been 10 years ago.

Mr Channon said that he would have to check the figures, but there was no doubt that the number of near-misses was going down and not up.

Mr Nigel Spearing (Newham South, Lab), in whose constituency the Stoptol is situated, wanted Mr Channon to ask the CAA chairman if any steps could be taken immediately to ameliorate what had been presented in newspaper reports as the situation and what might be done to expedite the plans already in hand that would be completed until the early 1990s.

Mr Channon said that he would take it up with the chairman; he would be seeing him soon.

● The Government was concerned at the number of overloaded lorries entering this country and, as well as increasing the checks on foreign vehicles, the Government intended to see that more weighbridges were installed.

To a later question, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, replied that last year 24 per cent of foreign vehicles checked were found to be overloaded by more than 5 per cent.

lorries, a 50 per cent increase over last year.

The level of weighing would be increased again in 1988 and if cabotage, the system for deciding the routes for certain goods, were to be introduced in 1992, and that was by no means certain, he was determined to make sure that the rules were fair to Britain as well as every-one else.

Mr John Ward (Poole, C) said that ports such as Poole that operated weighbridges were at a commercial disadvantage because those operators who knew that their lorries were overloaded would use other ports.

The solution would be to have compulsory weighing of every vehicle entering the United Kingdom through a port.

Mr Channon said that more lorries were to be weighed and enforcement procedures were now better. But he sympathized with the view expressed and said the Government intended to see that more weighbridges were installed.

To a later question, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, replied that last year 24 per cent of foreign vehicles checked were found to be overloaded by more than 5 per cent.

## Cross-benchers' importance Ministers consult the peers

By Sheila Guna, Political Staff

Cabinet ministers nursing important Bills in Parliament this session have been strongly urged to give personal briefings to those on the cross-benches in the House of Lords.

For the votes of the 331 peers who are not aligned to any political party could hold the key to the fate of the education, poll tax and housing reforms.

In recent sessions, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, have come to realize the influence of cross-benchers and have made sure that they were properly briefed on the Government's aims.

However, next summer will see the severest test of the legislative programme take place in the upper Chamber where the Government does not enjoy an overall majority.

The cross-benches provide a mix of those created life peers so that they could take on the judicial role as Lords of Appeal and a body of peers, both hereditary and life, who prefer not to be subject to the "whip" of any party.

They include, for instance, Lady Mar, who made headlines last week for her attempts to save David Barber, the in-

the-heart baby, and other children who had been turned away from Birmingham Children's Hospital. Lady Mar is believed to hold the oldest title in the House of Lords.

They also include Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, something of a folk hero in the Lords as well as proving a more radical step of crossing the line in staging rebellions in previous sessions.

Those who have defected from political parties have sometimes chosen the cross-benches rather than take the more radical step of crossing the floor to the other side of the House. And so have peers whose appointment to an outside body makes it more tactful to sit on the unaligned benches.

The recent report on the working of the House of Lords also disclosed the growing influence of life peers of all parties who have come to the Upper House by way of the variety of honours lists. The creation of new peers is mainly used as a reward for former senior party figures or to bring more "work-not" to be subject to the "whip" of any party.

A total of 506 peerages have been created under the Life Peerages Act, 1958, introduced by the former Prime Minister, Mr Harold Macmillan. It has made the house more "political" — and also brought more women into the chamber. Previously, very few were entitled to sit as only the very old Scottish families generally allow women to succeed to hereditary titles.

A total of 947 peers are entitled to take part in the

business of the House of Lords: 412 Conservatives; 118 Labour; 86 Alliance; 331 independent. The overall total of peers is 1,171 including minors, those who are without writs or have been granted leave of absence and 13 who have disclaimed their titles.

The report broke down these figures to "working peers", who attend at least one third of the sittings. It records the total number to 380, divided into 163 hereditary and 217 life peers. Not all the hereditary peers opt for the Conservative benches. The figures are 101 Conservative, 7 Labour, 19 Alliance and 36 independent.

The composition of the Lords has changed over the decades through various statutes and the use made of the honours system by recent prime ministers.

For instance, the 1453-54 session saw a mixture of 111 lords spiritual and temporal in the upper Chamber made up of 2 archbishops, 18 bishops, 27 abbots and priors, 3 dukes, 12 earls, 3 viscounts and 44 barons.

The present membership is 2 archbishops, 24 bishops, 762 hereditary peers, 29 hereditary peers who have had their titles conferred on them, including the Prince of Wales, and 360 life peers.

The House of Lords is also the final court of appeal for civil and criminal cases. Up to 11 Lords of Appeal in Ordinary hear appeals, normally in a Palace of Westminster committee room, and give judgement. These "law lords", who are life peers, can also influence the law-making functions of Parliament.

## Bill is a cautious move, says Ridley

## HOUSING

The Housing Bill was a cautious move towards the evolution of housing policy in the rented sector, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said when he moved the second reading.

It would allow housing trusts and other private bodies to take over the running of council estates and would strengthen the law against landlords who harassed their tenants in order to get vacant possession.

Mr Clive Sales, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, described it as an irrelevant and damaging Bill. The Government, he said, has destroyed any consensus on housing.

Mr Ridley described the Bill as a measured move. All who had at heart the interests of those who needed or preferred to rent rather than buy their own homes could be encouraged to support the policy.

He said that if ever there were a subject where political disputes had done grave harm to the interests of the least well off, it was rented housing. It was high time there was an agreed way forward.

The measures proposed were unlikely to be the last word on the subject, but it would be preferable that future debates should be about how to improve the provisions, rather than be stuck in the stalemate of doctrinaire disagreement as had been the case since 1915 when rent restrictions were first introduced.

The consequences of the stalemate were plain to see. Private rented housing had declined from 90 per cent of the housing

stock in 1914, to just 8 per cent today.

At the end of the 1930s, the public housing stock had been 1 million homes. By 1979 local authorities and new towns together owned and managed 5.5 million homes.

The management of that number of houses was a huge undertaking and that was precisely where things had gone wrong.

Local authorities had found themselves landlords to vast numbers of houses, flats and maisonettes. In some cases there were 50,000.

As a result, councils had faced enormous administrative and management tasks which almost inevitably led to insensitive allocation procedures, queuing which made tenants feel like supplicants, and cumbersome, retrograde and inflexible management arrangements.

Tenants could not be left to suffer and that was the problem the Government was tackling with the Bill.

To suggest that the Government wanted to end the role of local authorities in housing was nonsense. With some 4.5 million homes it was inconceivable they would not remain important providers of rented housing for the foreseeable future.

But the Government was trying to shift the future emphasis of their role from direct provision to securing the provision of housing by other agencies and organizations.

"Can you lend me Maggie?" I was asked at a New York dinner party a week or so ago. It was the kind of remark that a British visitor to the United States becomes used to hearing these days.

American admiration for Mrs Thatcher has become all the greater as confidence in President Reagan has waned. They now see in her all those qualities of strength and decisiveness that they used to believe he possessed. In American eyes she has reached that happy state for any politician where fact merges into myth.

This is a piece of good fortune for us as well as for her, because her reputation in the United States — which has not been equalled by any British Prime Minister since Churchill — is a national asset which is likely to become fully apparent only when she has gone.

For some years now her standing has been more consistently high on the other side of the Atlantic than on this. Perhaps distance has lent enchantment. But on my return to this country towards the end of last week there was further evidence of the personal way she now exercises.

She only has to have a dizzy spell at a reception for shock waves to pass through the political community here. The mere hint that it might all be becoming too much for her arouses fears, and hopes, of the end of an era.

Then the latest MORI poll, published in *The Sunday Times* this week, shows the Conservatives with even more public support than at the general election, with an astonishing 50 per cent. The honeymoon which customarily follows an election victory seems to be lasting longer than usual this time.

This must surely be attributed as much to the weakness of the opposition as to the Govern-

## COMMENTARY

own special interests in disarmament. But these can best be safeguarded through discussions with the United States, rather than in any attempt to deal bilaterally with the Soviet Union. The value of Mrs Thatcher's meeting with Mr Gorbachev is that it strengthens her position as a figure of consequence whose views cannot be ignored.

The advantage for Mr Gorbachev is to be able to convey the impression of general European approval for the disarmament measures he hopes to agree with Mr Reagan. Or, to put it another way, it may be more difficult for American critics to accuse the President of turning soft on the Soviet Union if Mrs Thatcher has just very publicly endorsed an INF agreement and the principle of a START settlement on strategic arms. As she will.

Some Americans will fear that in meeting Mr Gorbachev first Mrs Thatcher may upstage the President. But the Administration was told before the British Government issued the invitation and raised no objection.

In any case, the general inclination in the United States is not to criticize her. I estimated some indignation in the Administration over Mr Nigel Lawson's public attacks on American economic policy, but not over her strictures.

Yet nothing in politics goes on for ever. The Government's popularity at home is bound to slip a bit at least as attention focuses on more and more of its controversial legislative programme.

More serious threats come from the international economy, which is unpredictable, and from the sheer wear and tear of office. Even the most resolute leader is liable to find that over a period of years judgement can be affected by strain. But this is Mrs Thatcher's time.

Western Europe does have its

ment's virtues, but it all contributes to Mrs Thatcher's strength. It is the sort of luck that goes a long way in politics.

This same MORI poll put her personal approval rating, at 49 per cent, at as high a level as it has been at any time since the 1983 general election, with the sole exception of July this year when the euphoria of her election victory pushed it up to 54 per cent.

Her international standing is confirmed by the flying visit that Mr Gorbachev is to pay on his way to Washington next week. The idea that he is breaking his journey in Britain because he and Mrs Thatcher get on so well seems moonshine to me. They will be meeting because it is in their different interests to do so.

Mrs Thatcher's objective must be to establish her status as a player in her own right in the disarmament field. To do so she must be seen to be expressing not just British but also European concerns, and must not seem to be playing off the Soviet Union against the United States.

Western Europe does have its

1 Nov 1987 1.50



# Public has right to know, editor tells Spycatcher hearing

The British public is entitled to read what the American public and the rest of the world reads, Mr Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, told the *Spycatcher* hearing in the High Court in London yesterday.

He also said that public confidence in Britain's Security Services has been undermined to such a dangerous degree that only an independent official inquiry could restore it.

Under cross-examination by Mr Robert Alexander, QC, for the Attorney-General, Mr Neil said that, even if the present reporting ban on material from the book was lifted, there was little more that the press could do to investigate the allegations of Mr Peter Wright, a retired MI5 officer.

The only way to resolve Mr Wright's claims of misconduct in MI5 was to hold an official inquiry which had the full confidence of the public, he told Mr Justice Scott.

Two former Home Secretaries, Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr Maynard Rees, had called for such an investigation. At present, the Security Services were subject to "almost no accountability".

If the Services were allowed

to continue to investigate themselves when there were allegations against them, there would be more "Philby's" and "Blunt's".

Even the Prime Minister herself can't be absolutely sure that she has been told the whole truth, Mr Neil said.

He is the last of three leading national newspaper editors to give evidence in opposition to the Government's application for a permanent ban on British press reporting of the allegations in the book *Spycatcher*, Mr Wright's memoirs.

In a statement read from the witness box, Mr Neil told the court how *The Sunday Times* negotiated a secret deal to buy the United Kingdom serial rights to *Spycatcher* from the book's Australian publishers.

When the talks began early this year, he was content to await the outcome of the Government's court case in Australia before publishing extracts in *The Sunday Times*, but the news that the book was to be published in the United States changed the whole situation.

"As far as I was concerned, the imminent publication of *Spycatcher* in the US meant that any argument put forward

by the Government that publication of material from the book would damage national security could no longer be valid", he said.

"I thought it absurd that the British public should not be able to read information of major importance and concern which was being published in the US."

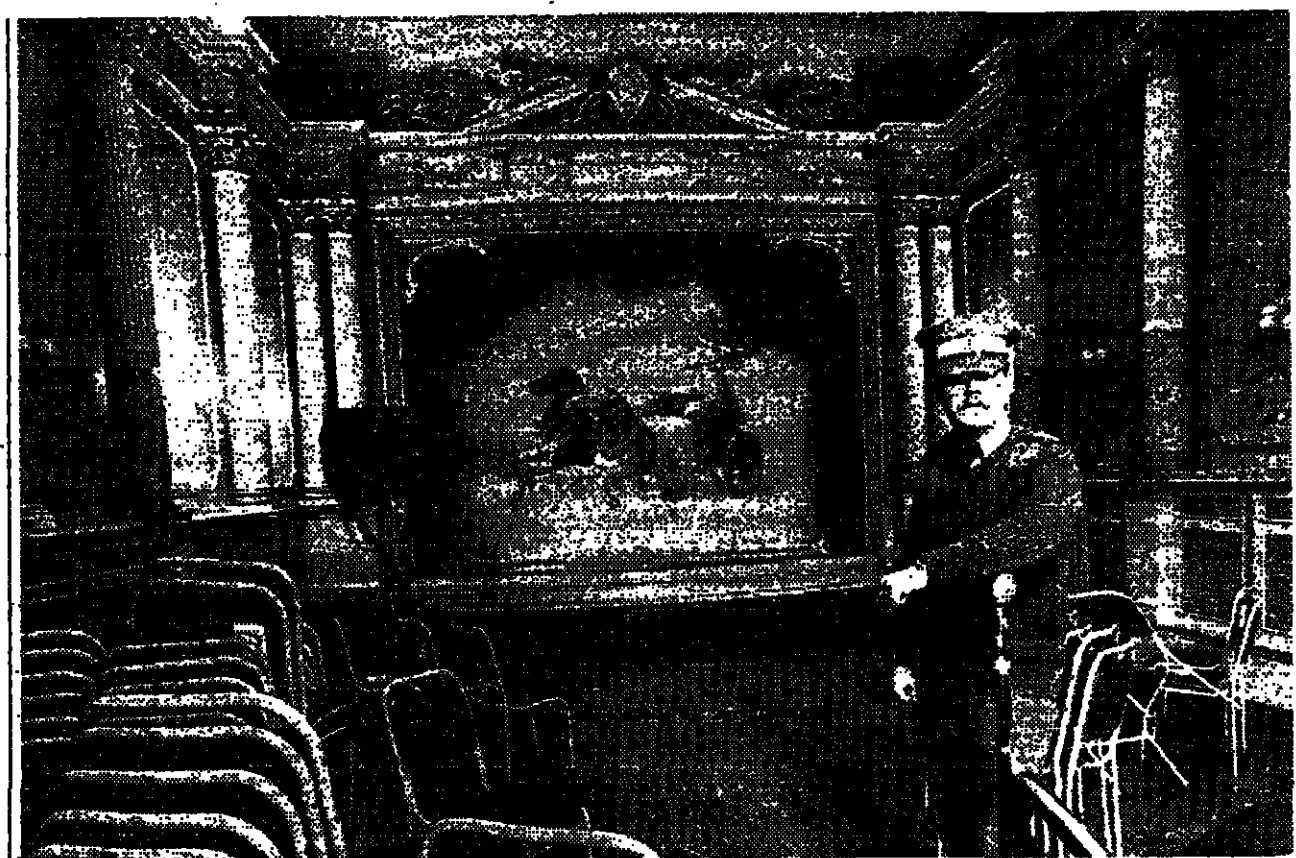
Mr Neil said he took legal advice and planned to tie *The Sunday Times* serialisation of the book to the US publication date.

Publication in *The Sunday Times* of the first extract on July 12 was followed immediately by the launch of contempt proceedings against the newspaper by the Attorney-General. Those proceedings were still pending.

Mr Neil said there had been so many "leaks" based on *Spycatcher* that it seemed important that the public should know exactly what Peter Wright said in his book.

"If there is nothing of substance in Peter Wright's allegations, the Security Services and the Government should welcome the opportunity to clear the air once and for all", Mr Neil said.

The hearing continues today.



The Welsh Office has put on the market the Adelina Patti Theatre and the castle which adjoins it in Craig-y-Nos, Powys (Lynda Mordin writes).

Miss Patti, the Victorian operatic soprano, designed the miniature theatre - seen under watchful eye of Mr Dewi Hopkins, a security guard - with just 150 seats for her own entertainment when she decided to live in South Wales.

It was in that cameo auditorium that early recordings of such classics as "Home Sweet Home" and "Last Rose of Summer" were made. Both the

theatre and castle (right) are listed.

In recent years the building became a geriatric hospital, although the theatre, built in 1891 as a small imitation of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, continued to be used by the Neath Opera Group.

Various local organizations, headed by the opera singer, Sir Geraint Evans, hope it can be turned into a music and arts centre. Meanwhile, offers are being invited by tender.

(Photographs: Graham Wood)

## Aid for traditional farming is doubled

By John Young  
Agriculture Correspondent

Twelve further Environmentally Sensitive Areas, in which farmers will be paid up to £250 a hectare (£120 an acre) a year to use traditional farming methods, were designated yesterday.

The Government's budget for the scheme, initiated a year ago, has been doubled to £12 million a year. The new designations will bring the total eligible area in Britain to nearly two million acres.

The new areas are Breckland, Norfolk; the northern part of the Peak District; the Shropshire borders; seven Suffolk river valleys; the Test Valley, Hampshire; the Llyn Peninsula, North Wales; Stewartry, Dumfries and Galloway; the Machair Lands of the Uists and Benbecula, Shetland; and the Glens of Antrim, in Northern Ireland.

The other two are extensions of areas in the Cambrian Mountains, North Wales, and the South Downs in Sussex.

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said that although the scheme was voluntary, 1,400 applications had been received for 80,000 acres, and the Government had achieved three quarters of its target.

## 'Plot to perjure' in bomb case

Six men jailed for life for the Birmingham pub bombings conspired to commit perjury and pervert the course of justice at their trial, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Lawyers for the men have alleged during the appeal that police were involved in a conspiracy against them and obtained false confessions by force.

However, Mr Igor Judge, QC, for the Crown, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday: "There was a conspiracy at the trial to commit perjury and pervert the course of justice - but it was the defendants, not the police, who tried to put that conspiracy into practice".

The six are: William Power, aged 42, of Canwell Grove, Birmingham; Patrick Hill, aged 42, of Kilburn Road, Enderby Road, Robert Hunter, aged 41, of Riley Way, Richard McIlkenny, aged 53, of Epsom Grove, all of Kingstanding, Birmingham; Hugh Callaghan, aged 57, of Stanwell Grove, Erdington.

All were jailed for life at Lancaster Crown Court in 1975 for the bombings at two Birmingham public houses, which killed 21 people.

The hearing continues today.

## Sergeant struck me, miner says

A miner needed 12 stitches after a policeman struck him three times with a truncheon while the miner was being held by three other officers, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Hedley Angove, aged 37, of Tretomas, near Newport, Gwent, is bringing a civil action at Caernarvon Crown Court claiming assault and false imprisonment against Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales police, and Inspector Henry Jones.

Mr Angove said he was hit by Mr Jones, then a sergeant, when he tried to stop two lorries while he was on picket duty in North Wales during the miners' strike. He denied abusing the police.

The case continues today.

## Boy improves

David Barber, aged seven weeks, the hole in the heart boy who was operated on last week after five postponements, has left intensive care and returned to an ordinary ward, Birmingham Children's Hospital said yesterday.

## Fraud inquiry

Nigel Cooper, aged 24, and his wife Martin, aged 19, found dead with their baby daughter in a fume-filled car at their new home in March, Cambridgeshire, last week, had been charged with deception, police said yesterday.

## Writer wins first memorial award

Colin Ward, a writer from Kersey Upland in Suffolk, has won the first annual Charles Douglas-Horne award, which will provide him with £15,000 for research into the revival of Britain's inner cities.

The award was set up last year to commemorate Charles Douglas-Horne, who was Editor of *The Times* from 1982 until his death in 1985. The Prince of Wales is president of the Charles Douglas-Horne Memorial Trust, which has a target of £250,000, of which some £150,000 has been raised.

The trust's aim is to sponsor one person each year, providing him or her with financial independence to carry out the necessary research into a particular subject in domestic or international affairs. Objectivity and an absence of political motive are essential criteria.

Entrants for the first award were asked to propose a project for one year's research into urban decay and regeneration, culminating in a written work for publication.

Mr Ward has already written a dozen books on subjects related to urban renewal and will shortly have another published on the history of allotments.

Mr Ward, whose father was a headmaster in Canning Town, east London, spent several years employed in building, architecture and town planning but gave up full-time employment to concentrate on writing. "The great thing for me as a freelance is that I can now have a year free from worrying about turning down other work", he said.

He plans to spend the first three months in research on British cities, then to visit Europe and the United States. "I would particularly like to study Bologna and Turin", he said.

"They say that in Bologna they have rehabilitated the centre without draining the

poor. In Turin the crisis in the motor industry seems to have resulted in large numbers of sub-contracting workshops. There could be lessons in that for Coventry and Birmingham."

Although a successful author, Mr Ward says he is not an academic and thinks of himself as an outsider among the experts in his field. He admits holding opinions not always popular with those adhering to more traditional views.

He said: "The very language we use about the inner city is misleading and certainly historically inaccurate."

"Our cities grew up like mushrooms in the nineteenth century, and at the very heyday of their prosperity, when heavy industry was loaded with orders and when the docks were full of ships, they were the bywords for slums, overcrowding, high juvenile mortality, crime, prostitution and destitution. The golden age of nostalgia has always been just before our own lifetime."

Mr Ward intends studying the extent to which poor people who would like to move out of the cities are trapped by planning policies and lack of access to housing credit.

Mr Ward was selected for the award by the trustees, under the chairmanship of Mr Edward Cazalet, QC, and an advisory panel.

The patrons of the trust include the Prince of Wales (president), the Prime Minister, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Duke of Kent. The trustees are Mrs Jessica Douglas-Horne, Mr David Pryce-Jones, Mr David Dimbleby, Mr Bamber Gascoigne, Mr Charles Wilson (ex-officio as editor of *The Times*), and Mr Cazalet.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the trust should write or send a donation to Dr Barbara Day, 4 Offord Road, London N1 1DL.



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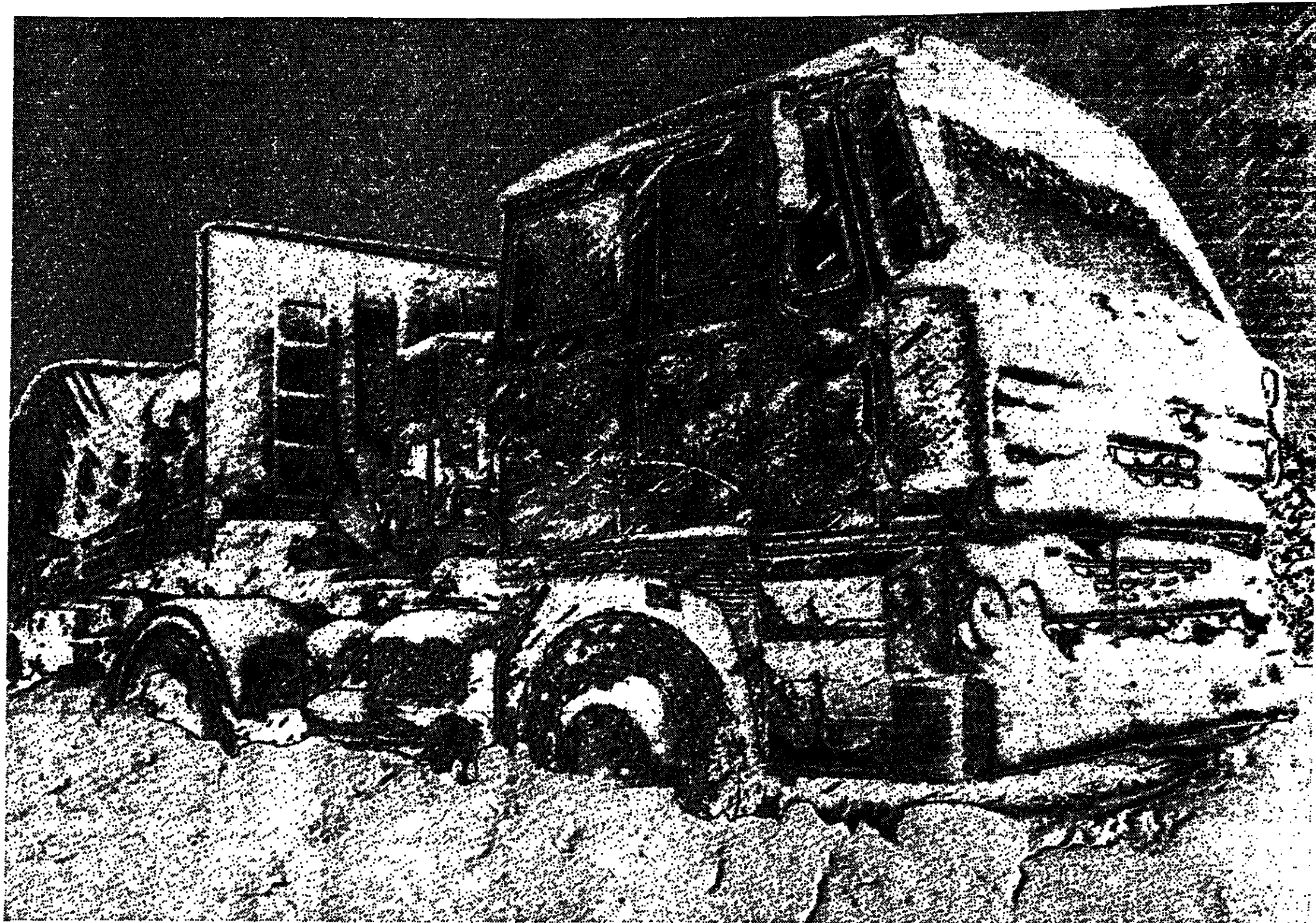
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The Royal Bank of Scotland





# Turbocharged. Intercooled. Air conditioned. And stuck in the Ice Age.

Progress can be a two-edged sword.

On the one hand, in the last few years the truck driver's world has improved out of all recognition.

You sit ten feet tall in a comfortably insulated cocoon. Power steering, power clutch, range change and several hundred horsepower are at your disposal.

Air suspension, air conditioning, CB and stereo are there to smooth your passage.

Yet on the other hand, one cold spell can reduce the king of the road to a state of frustrated impotence.

A few flakes of snow, they say, and Britain grinds to a halt.

It doesn't even have to snow at all.

As every self-respecting lorry driver knows, when ordinary diesel fuel reaches the so-called 'Cloud Point' at just under 0°C, waxy particles begin to form.

The lower the temperature, the bigger the particles.

Once they become big enough to block fuel pipes and filters, the engine grinds to a halt. This is known as the Cold Filter

Plugging Point (or CFPP for short).

Then all the turbos, intercoolers and 16 speed gearboxes in the world can't get things moving again.

And as well as being nobody's idea of fun, standing on a freezing cold motorway hard shoulder with a blowlamp is somehow at odds with the technology that goes into today's trucks.

What can be done about this?

To meet the British Standard, winter quality diesel fuel must have a CFPP of no higher than -9°C.

Last year Mobil led the way by bringing this figure down to -15°.

But in the very worst of last winter's weather, even this wasn't low enough to prevent some vehicles from being affected.

Perhaps you were even one of the many hundreds of people stranded in fuel-starved lorries, vans and buses.

If so, you have our sympathy.

Fortunately, we can offer you something more useful than commiseration.

So this season we have produced an improved version of our winter quality

Mobil Diesel Plus. With a Cloud Point of -5° and a CFPP of -18°C.

The difference between -15° and -18° may not sound very much.

But as we at Mobil well know, it can make the difference between a satisfied customer and an ex-customer.

And while climatic extremes like these don't happen every day, getting caught out just once is once too often.

But can't additives be used to bring ordinary diesel fuel up (or rather down) to the latest Mobil standard?

In a word, no.

The performance of Mobil Diesel Plus is determined not just by additives, but at the refining stage.

No amount of extra 'packages' can lower the Cloud Point.

And after all the hassle of adding them to your storage tank, there's no guarantee that they'll mix properly.

In their place, you can now get the most convenient, consistently reliable protection against the consistently unreliable British climate.

Not that it needs to be freezing cold for Mobil Diesel Plus to show its mettle.

The unique detergency of our fuel keeps your engines' injectors cleaner.

This in turn reduces fuel consumption and cuts the quantity of carbon products emitted as exhaust smoke.

In a test involving many different types of vehicle over a total distance of over two million miles, Mobil Diesel Plus was shown to improve fuel economy by an average of 4%.

That's a huge potential saving when spread over a large fleet.

And it means that, at the end of the day, Mobil Diesel Plus is the complete, all-weather, high-performance fuel.

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Even when they're in the middle of a blizzard.

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**Mobil Diesel Plus. Runs cleaner. Runs colder.**

150-151



## WORLD ROUNDUP

## 2,500 held under Ershad measures

Dhaka — The Bangladesh authorities said yesterday that two people died after security forces fired on demonstrators and that nearly 2,500 had been arrested since a crackdown on political opponents began last week under a state of emergency (Ahmed Fazi writes). Professor Abdul Matin, the Interior Minister, told a news conference that 52 people were detained yesterday for violating the regulations.

He added, however, that four political leaders had been released. He named them as Mr Mirza Hafiz, acting head of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and two of his colleagues, Mrs Jahanara Khan and Mr Saidur Rahman, and Awami League president, Mr Abdul Mannan. He also disclosed that the BBC's detained Dhaka correspondent, Mr Ataus Samad, was being transferred to a civilian hospital, but would not say if he was suffering from any ailment.

## Vanunu wins battle

Jerusalem — The defence lawyer for Mr Mordechai Vanunu, who is accused of treason for describing what he claimed was Israel's nuclear capacity in *The Sunday Times*, yesterday won his first real legal battle in the year since his client has been held in prison awaiting trial (Ian Murray writes).

On the lawyer's appeal, the High Court ordered the state to show cause within five days why the defence should not be heard in public rather than in private, as has been the practice at all of the many preliminary hearings so far.

## Sir Joh to 9 killed in quit today townships

Sydney — Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, Premier of Queensland, is expected to resign today, five days after he lost the National Party leadership in a public struggle for power in Australia's most conservative state (Keith Dalton writes).

After almost 20 years in power, Sir Joh, aged 76, is likely to announce his resignation after meeting Sir Walter Campbell, the Queensland Governor.

Earlier the new National Party president, Mr Michael Ahern, said Parliament would be recalled tomorrow to settle the leadership issue.

## Diplomats on strike

Rome — As a wave of wildcat strikes continues in Italy, even the diplomatic corps decided to make its voice heard yesterday — not over money and working hours, but to preserve the purity of the caste itself (A Correspondent writes).

A recent law threatens party to break down the barrier between Italy's 800 career diplomats and the clerical staff of the ministry and its embassies. "It is not that we fear for ourselves," said Signor Giuseppe Deodato, the secretary of the National Association of Diplomats, "but for the efficiency of Italy's foreign service."

## Torrent deaths Sri Lanka reshuffle

Santiago (Renter) — Dozens of people were feared drowned when a wall of water up to 10 yards high swept through camps for workers on an electricity project in a mountainous region of Chile near here.

One paper yesterday said 35 had died, while another reported that at least 50 people were missing, believed killed. Police said six bodies were recovered. The disaster occurred on Sunday along the Colorado River after Andean avalanches.

Colombo (Renter) — President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has appointed three ministers after the resignation of Mr Gamani Perisuriya, the Agriculture and Food Minister, who opposed Tamil autonomy moves.

The Posts and Telecommunications Minister, Mr D.B. Wijetunga, takes the vacancy. His successor is the deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr Sami Abeysondera. Mr P. Dayaratne is Minister of Power and Energy.

## Missing plane has experts puzzled

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The South Korean airliner that disappeared over southeast Asia with 115 people on board was still missing last night. A two-day search over Burma, Thailand and the Andaman Sea has found no trace of it.

Korean experts who arrived in Thailand to investigate the mystery confessed they had discovered nothing. The puzzle has been heightened by conflicting reports from Thai officials who said that wreckage of the Boeing 707 was found in western Thailand near the Burmese border.

Other officials described their colleagues' statements as "speculation". The same Thai officials said that five helicopters and more than 100 men on the ground had found nothing of the plane, which was on a flight from Iraq to South Korea via Bangkok. All 20 crew members and 93 of the 95 passengers were South Koreans. Speculation about the fate of the airliner covers every possibility. The most common theory is that it was blown up by a bomb. Other reports said the airliner had crashed into the Andaman Sea as it was approaching Bangkok. Thai television channel said last night that the plane had crashed in territory in eastern Burma controlled by Karen rebels who have been fighting the Rangoon Government for 40 years, but a Karen official said he knew nothing of the missing jet.

JOHANNESBURG: The search for survivors from the South African Airways jumbo jet which crashed into the Indian Ocean near Mauritius on Saturday was abandoned yesterday as efforts were intensified to locate the aircraft's flight recorder (Ray Kennedy writes).

There were 160 people aboard — 141 passengers and 19 crew — but Mr M. Begaunt, Director of Civil Aviation for Mauritius, said yesterday that the condition of nine bodies found indicated there could be no survivors.

He admitted visiting North Korea but denied all charges of espionage, explaining that, as a second-generation Korean living in Japan, he was interested in understanding the political realities of both countries.

He was sentenced to death, but on appeal this was reduced

## Cubans press on with US prison siege



Cuban prisoners demonstrating on the roof of Atlanta Penitentiary where they continued to hold about 90 hostages yesterday. The inmates shouted messages over a loudspeaker, thanking Americans for their support. They were told about the agreement that resolved a similar siege involving Cuban inmates at a detention centre at Oakdale on Sunday, but officials declined to say if progress was made. Four Atlanta hostages were released on Sunday well before the Oakdale settlement was discussed, officials said. "There has been no reaction, no celebrating, nothing discernible," a spokesman said.

In Oakdale, the reaction was one of joyous relief. Freed hostages beamed, and hostages' relatives and inmates wept and cheered. "For the hostages and the relatives, this is a day of jubilation," said Auxiliary Bishop Augustin Roman of Miami, who persuaded the 950 Cubans to accept

## Iraq anger at Moscow for stalling on arms embargo

From Nicholas Beeston, Baghdad

Iraq has publicly accused its long-standing ally, the Soviet Union, of deliberately stalling on a move by the Security Council to impose an arms embargo against Iran.

The unprecedented attack by Baghdad against Moscow was delivered by the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mr Tariq Aziz, before leaving for New York to discuss a last-ditch attempt for a negotiated settlement to the Gulf War with the United Nations Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar.

At a press conference for British journalists on Sunday night, organized by the London-based Arab Research Centre, Mr Aziz said that in four meetings with senior Soviet officials in the past four months, Moscow had used two excuses to avoid joining the other members of the Security Council in imposing sanctions against Iran.

In July, the Council's five permanent members, the US, Britain, France, China and the Soviet Union, approved Resolution 598 which calls for an immediate ceasefire in the 7½-year conflict. The members agreed to impose an arms embargo against either side which refused the peace call.

However, the Iraqi Foreign Minister said that the deputy Soviet Foreign Minister responsible for the Middle East, Mr Yuli Vorontsov, had visited Baghdad twice since July and initially had tried to persuade Iraq that Iran was serious about peace.

More recently Moscow had been attempting to lay the blame for the failure of the UN peace initiative on the West. "I just received a cable from our Ambassador in Moscow," Mr Aziz said.

"Vorontsov is saying, 'We are ready to adopt sanctions against Iran but the Americans and the Westerners want a paper decision. They do not want a substantive effective resolution of sanctions'."

"I would like to believe that, if they are saying that in public not in a secret room, not to the Iraqi Ambassador," he added. "We are not hiding our dissatisfaction with this position."

In sharp contrast, Mr Aziz praised the efforts of Washington and London, who he said were "working in the right direction" towards an arms embargo. He said that France shared the Western viewpoint and explained that China would vote the same

way as the other permanent members of the Security Council once a consensus had been achieved.

But he admitted that because of the Soviet position he was not optimistic of a breakthrough either at the UN or during next week's summit in Washington between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, where the Gulf War is likely to be high on the agenda of regional conflicts.

Senior Iraqi officials said that they were particularly concerned about the improved relations between Tehran and Moscow, including a forthcoming visit to Russia by the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, Hojatollah Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Iran is known to be keen to convert a gas pipeline between the two countries to carry oil.

Western diplomatic sources in Baghdad were staggered by the Iraqi outburst and said it was partly due to the US military support for Iraq's closest ally, Kuwait.

"Iraq managed to get the US to come on board more strongly than it had ever dreamed," one diplomat said. "Now it is having to learn that it cannot have two superpowers in the same basket."

## Details threaten EEC summit

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Amid warnings that the imminent EEC summit in Copenhagen is in danger of sinking under a mass of unresolved detail, Mrs Thatcher will meet Mr Poul Schlüter, the Danish Prime Minister, and current EEC President, today to try to find common ground.

But as EEC foreign ministers ended their two-day pre-summit "conclave" yesterday without agreement, Mr Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the Danish Foreign Minister, said there was little time left to "generate political will". Mrs Thatcher and other leaders arrive in Copenhagen on Thursday evening.

One suggestion yesterday — not supported by Britain — was that the summit should jettison contentious parts of the financial reform package and concentrate on areas where the EEC is close to agreement, for example, limiting output in cereals, proteins and oils. In indirect but pointed criticism of Britain's insistence on across-the-board

commodity-by-commodity limits to farm spending, Mr Ellemann-Jensen said that if "some countries" wanted to derail and wreck the summit, they could do so by introducing too much detail. "Certain delegations" had to show



Mr Ellemann-Jensen: Plea for some common spirit, more community spirit and should realize that "you cannot always get everything you want". A deal was all the more imperative in view of the new wave of world stock market

unrest, Mr Ellemann-Jensen said.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, retorted that Britain was not interested in a cosmetic deal or a "fudge" at Copenhagen. The Danish presidency had itself proposed detailed "stabilizers", or automatic limits to farm output with penalties for farmers who overproduce.

"If the hard decisions are not taken this week they will still have to be taken some time," Sir Geoffrey said. "If we believe we can resolve the problems by allowing vital components of across-the-board stabilizers to disappear into the sand, we will deceive ourselves and fail Europe."

Sir Geoffrey and other foreign ministers emphasized that agreement at Copenhagen was still within grasp, and the summit was not "condemned to failure". But West Germany and France still oppose the kind of radical farm cuts Britain wants, a stand Sir

Geoffrey described as disappointing.

One proposed way out is a clause in the Copenhagen agreement allowing states to opt out of farm cuts in exceptional circumstances. But Sir Geoffrey said there was no point in an agreement riddled with loopholes "like a moth-eaten sock".

Mr Ellemann-Jensen said the summit would have to deal with almost all the basic points in the budget reform deal: how to increase the EEC's resources, whether to double regional aid to the southern countries, how to impose budgetary discipline and how to define expenditure priorities in an increased budget.

Sir Geoffrey maintained that a doubling of the regional funds was not necessary for a "generous increase" in aid to the south. He also refused to consider a change in Britain's budget rebate, observing that the conditions which brought it about in 1984 were still valid.

## Afghan pledge

## 115,000 Soviet troops will be 'out in a year'

From Christopher Walker, Kabul

Dr Najibullah, the newly elected President of Afghanistan, last night used his inaugural speech to announce that he will be formally cutting the proposed timetable for a Soviet withdrawal from 16 months to a year at the next round of United Nations-sponsored Geneva peace talks, expected to open in February.

In addition to the formal announcement of the cut in the timetable (the only outstanding difference at the UN talks), Dr Najibullah also called for a US-Soviet conference to discuss the Afghan situation.

The offer to cut the timetable came amid growing indications of Soviet enthusiasm for a solution to the debilitating war in Afghanistan and greatly improved performance by the Muslim rebels fighting with new supplies of US Stinger missiles.

The Kremlin-backed leader, whose plan had already been leaked in advance by Soviet officials, added that the 12-month period could be reduced further if the leaders of the seven main rebel groups would back the Government's self-styled unilateral ceasefire, which he extended for a further six months from January 1988.

Dr Najibullah hedged his new Geneva offer with the key condition that in exchange for the 12-month pullback of the 115,000 Soviet troops "interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is stopped and its non-resumption is guaranteed".

He added the hope that the next round of the five-year-old peace talks would be the last.

The speech before the Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) was seen as ensuring that Afghanistan will secure an important place on the agenda for next week's Washington summit.

"It is only at that level that a solution will ever come," one diplomat said.

"Today in the long-suffering land of Afghanistan, the word peace is being pronounced in an ever-louder voice, muffling the sounds of explosions and the roar of bullets," said Dr Najibullah in a remark which belied the frequency with which the noise of war is heard in Kabul.

Earlier, the 1,500 delegates had unanimously elected him President under a new constitution which gives the head of state such sweeping powers that few observers believe that any of the Muslim rebel groups will be persuaded to accept it.

The speech, delivered in a building ringed with Soviet tanks and armoured personnel carriers, was seen as a determined effort to split the guerrilla leaders, some of whom are known to be more willing to accept a ceasefire than others. But a strong rejection was predicted.

The rebels have dismissed the election process as a sham, but yesterday Dr Najibullah attempted to defend the new way of government and claimed that he did not want to build a communist society in Afghanistan. The presence of the Soviet Ambassador surrounded by five bodyguards, all fingering their guns, was a reminder of the political realities.

Senior American sources remained convinced that a new transition government will not be possible in Kabul until Dr Najibullah is personally distanced from it. But under the new constitution (which will enable him to remain head of state for 14 years), his power as President and supreme commander of the armed forces are said by Western experts here to be greater than ever before.

## 12 killed in fierce Kabul gunbattles

From Our Own Correspondent, Kabul

Areas of the sprawling Afghan capital were turned into a battleground yesterday during fighting between government troops and armed supporters of a former Mujahidin commander who changed sides and was promoted to general in the Afghan army. At least 12 people were killed.

The fierce gun battles dealt another serious blow to the policy of national reconciliation backed by the Afghan communist leader, Dr Najibullah, only hours before he was elected unopposed as President by delegates to the Loya Jirga.

One Western diplomat, with whom I toured the streets soon after the first of the two main firefights, said that the incident had displayed the fragility of the control exercised by the Moscow-backed regime, even in the capital where its grip is said to be firmer than elsewhere in the war-torn country.

During the drive, we were turned back by one nervous-looking Afghan soldier in his late teens who was clutching an RPG-7 rocket launcher.

The fighting, some of the worst seen in Kabul in recent months, began at 7.15 am, when General Ismet Muslim, a delegate to the Jirga and member of the country's ruling Revolutionary Council, attempted to force his way through a roadblock less than 300 yards from the hotel where Western newsmen are staying.

More than 300 rounds were pumped into two vehicles by Afghan troops and an eyewitness told me that 10 bodyguards and at least two members of the security forces had been killed.

The 48-year-old general,

who only the day before had been sitting next to reporters covering the Jirga, was persuaded to cross over to the government side in 1985 after a large cash payment. He took with him about 5,000 armed followers based in the strategic Kandahar region close to the Pakistani border.

Although known as a playboy and a headstrong man, he regularly caused trouble in Kabul with his heavily armed followers. He was regarded as an important figure by the Najibullah regime, which is banking on persuading insurgents to defect.

When I arrived at the scene of the battle, the vehicles were riddled with bullets and covered in blood. Two trucks carrying the bodyguards had been unceremoniously tipped into a ditch by a Soviet tank. It emerged, however, that the general had managed to escape.

Explaining the incident, Mr Hasmet Khatami, a senior Afghan official told reporters: "This commander did not obey the security measures for the area around the Jirga. He did not obey a warning from the security forces and he opened fire on them."

Yesterday's first battle was followed by a second in which government troops, including Afghan communists in camouflage uniforms, surrounded the large house near the airport where the general lived with at least 15 guards.

A Western military expert told *The Times*: "At 2.30 pm all hell broke out and a long battle ensued with the Afghan troops using rocket launchers and heavy machine guns. It was too dangerous to go close, but I imagine that the casualty toll was high."

## Brothers detained 16 years

By Caroline Moorehead

Two brothers, once students at Seoul National University and in detention since April 1971, are not among the political prisoners who have been freed in South Korea amnesties following new undertakings about democratic reforms.

Though some 530 prisoners were released when human rights became a focus of public debate after a student dissident died under torture in January, Mr Soh Sang and his brother, Mr Soh Joon Shik, remain in jail. They are there for their "pro-communist" views, together with some 760 other people still believed imprisoned for political activities.

The brothers were born in Japan. At the time of their arrest, they were charged with spying for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and inciting anti-government demonstrations under orders from the north.



PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

South Korea

Mr Soh Sang's trial was delayed because he needed hospital treatment for severe burns to 45 per cent of his body after trying to commit suicide, reportedly to avoid further torture under interrogation. In court he claimed that a confession of guilt had been extracted from him, which he had signed with the imprint of his big toe.

He admitted visiting North Korea but denied all charges of espionage, explaining that, as a second-generation Korean living in Japan, he was interested in understanding the political realities of both countries.

He was sentenced to death, but on appeal this was reduced

to life imprisonment. In July 1985, Amnesty International learned that he had been kept in a punishment cell and beaten after complaining about conditions in Taejeon Prison.

His brother was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment, reduced to seven years on appeal. In May 1978, his sentence expired, but he remains in preventive custody under the Public Security Law — a measure indefinitely renewable every two years. It is thought that the authorities continue to hold him simply because he refuses to sign a declaration of conversion to anti-communism.

Visitors have been told that he has been tortured since his conviction.

On September 30, Mr Soh Joon Shik learned that his appeal against his current sentence of preventive custody had again been rejected by the Seoul High Court.

## Manhunt in bush for killers of whites

From Jan Raath Bulawayo

Not far from the remains of Cecil Rhodes, amid the vast pebble-shaped granite boulders of the Matopos Hills south of Bulawayo, a hunt is continuing for the men who last week slaughtered 16 people, missionaries and their families.

The same landscape over which the founder of Rhodesia used to gaze broodingly, known as "World's View", conceals the guerrilla leader named Gayus (the Guy from the Bush) from spotter planes, helicopters and foot patrols.

The area is honeycombed with deep caves and recesses, and is thick with acacia trees. It sheltered Gayus's former leader, whose *nom de guerre* was "Fidel Castro", until security forces got him out in the open and shot him last Christmas. Gayus is one of perhaps 300 guerrillas roaming the bush in western Zimbabwe, protected both by the low vegetation and the silence of its peasants.

From the limited information available on the guerrillas — known by the Government as "dissidents" and

"bandits," and among themselves and their supporters as *abafana weganga* (the boys from the bush) in Ndebele vernacular — they appear to have limited political motivation other than being opposed to the Shona-majority Government and whites.

Most have been in the bush since

Harare — Zimbabwe yesterday announced the partial lifting of a ban on the activities of Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition party, Zapu (Renter reports). Mr Enos Nkala, the Home Affairs Minister, said it could reopen two offices closed earlier this year and hold public meetings.

Their arms are limited to AK-47 and G-3 automatic rifles, and the odd assortment of pistols, shotguns and hunting rifles stolen from farmers.

Military sources say the most advanced firearm in their possession is a single Soviet bloc heavy machine gun. Mercifully, only one landmine is known to have been used.

The supply of weapons from South Africa appeared to dry up in 1984 after high-level negotiations between the Zimbabwean and South African defence forces. Any form of centralized military control directing the groups was cut off in 1983 when Botswana clamped down on what amounted to a command structure in the Dukwe refugee camp, only a few miles across the Zimbabwe border.

That the guerrillas have been able to continue operating is largely a measure of the co-operation they obtain from Matabeleland's peasants. The tribal animosity against the Shona, the shortage of land, drought and the bitterness over the abuses by the Zimbabwe National Army in the first three years of the war, compound the fear instilled by the guerrillas' brutal methods of dealing with "sell-outs".

"Out there they've got no protection," pointed out a farmer living near here. "But you look after your

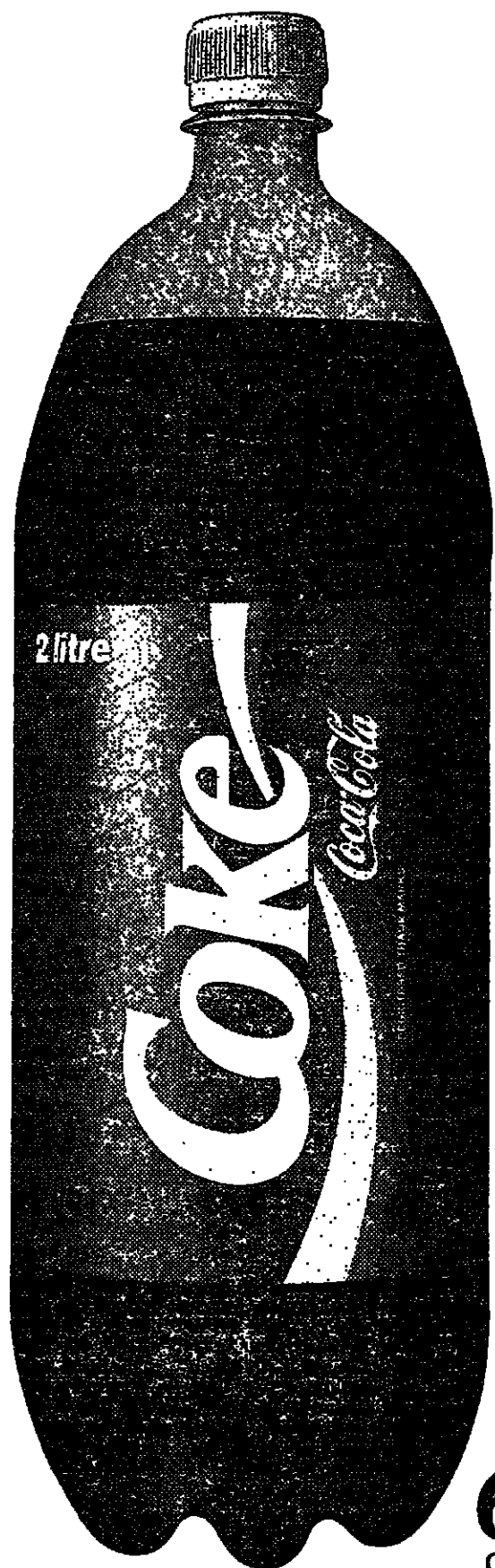
labour force, and offer them some protection, and they aren't interested in the dissidents any more."

Some members of the security forces believe the guerrillas are protected by "magic" which, say military sources, accounts for an occasional reluctance to engage the guerrillas. The legend that had grown up around Richard Gwesela, the stocky ex-Zipra officer who is believed to have personally murdered more than 20 people in the Midlands district, was seen last month when thousands queued to see his body, which had been put on display in the town of Gweru.

The connection with Zapu appears now more tenuous than ever. The "Father Zimbabwe" badges, picturing Mr Nkomo, are no longer seen on the guerrillas. Their messages, written in barely-comprehensible English, evince a support for Zapu and Marxist-Leninist ideals, but the collapse of the party's infrastructure makes these statements only a thin justification for waging tribal conflicts. "It's more gangsterism now than politics," one farmer said.



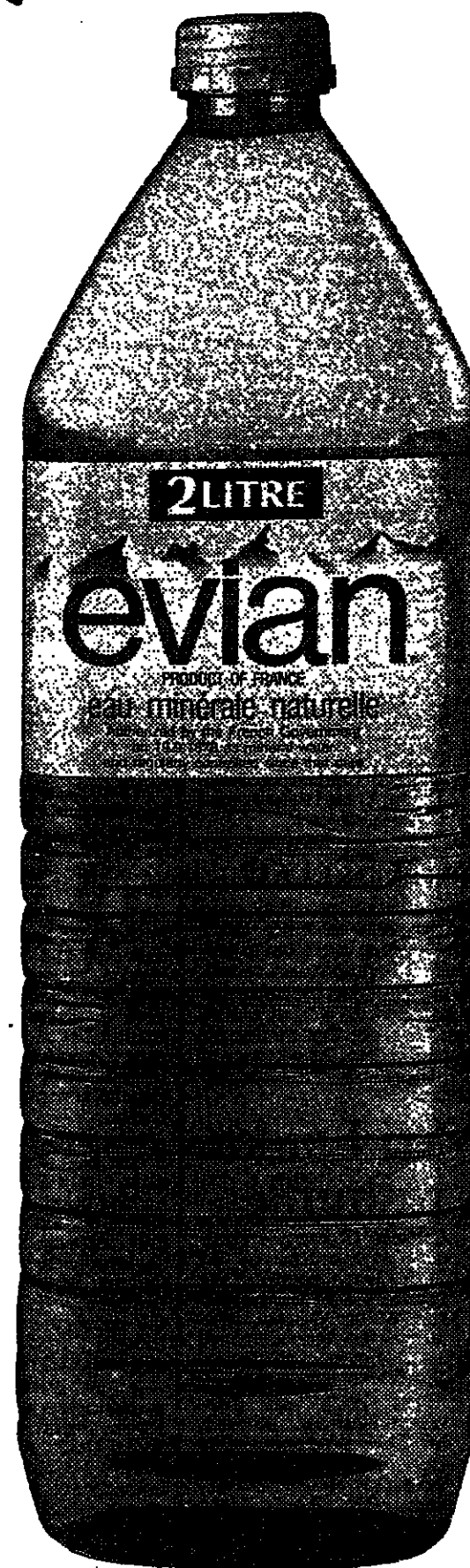
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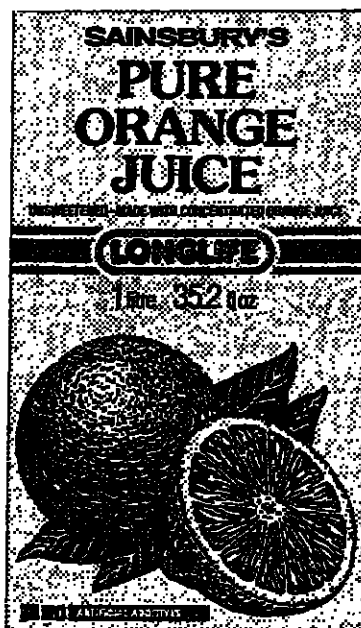


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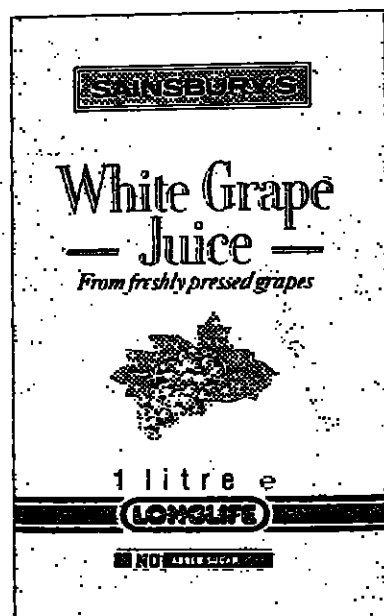


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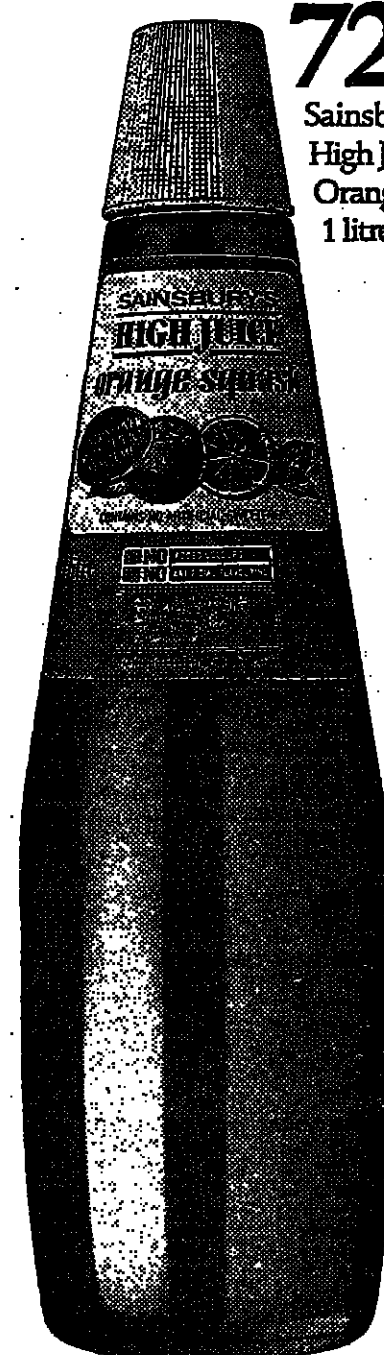
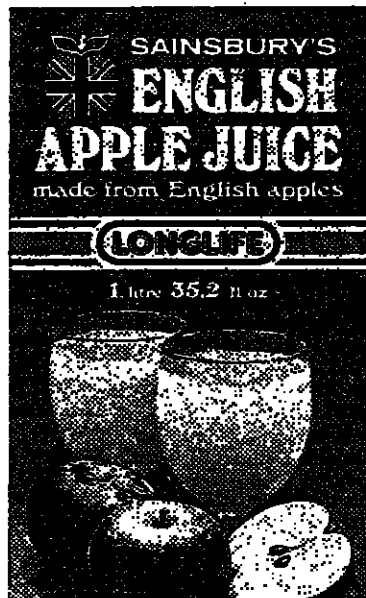


**69<sup>p</sup>**  
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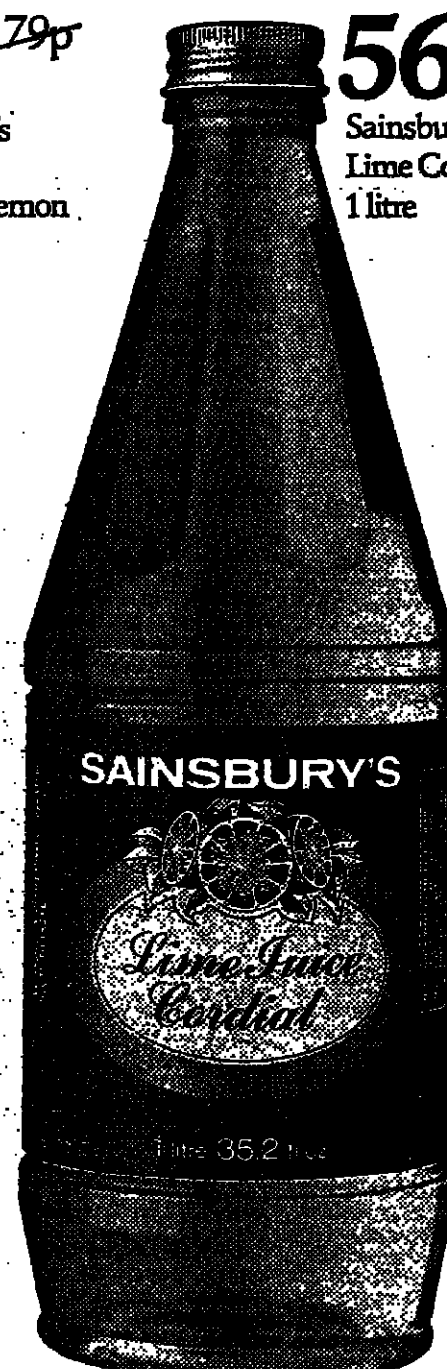


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## The crisis in Haiti

## Poll officials flee to Western missions after day of killings

From Alan Tomlinson, Port-au-Prince

Some of the nine members of Haiti's electoral council, dismissed after polling was suspended because of indiscriminate attacks on voters by armed gangs that left 27 people dead and nearly 70 wounded, yesterday took refuge in Western embassies.

Their move came after a night of sporadic gunfire in the Haitian capital punctuated by several loud explosions. But by early yesterday the streets were gradually coming back to life, although most shops and markets remained closed.

The fleeing of the electoral officials was reported by private and state-run radio but the stations did not indicate whether they had asked for political asylum, or identify the embassies in which they were staying.

The Army Chief of Staff, Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy, has attempted to cool passions by going on national television to say that the military would now assume the job of giving Haiti its first general elections for 30 years.

He pledged to stick to the existing election calendar which contemplates a hand-over of power by his Government to elected civilians on

the second anniversary next February 7 of the flight into exile of "President for Life" Jean-Claude Duvalier.

The general's statement provided a cunning twist at the end of a day in which armed squads of Duvalier's disbanded private militia, the Tontons Macoute, came out of hiding to gun down and hack to death voters in an election from which their own favoured candidates were barred. General Namphy's speech left the strong impression that army-organized elections would permit the Duvalierists to run.

He accused the council of having committed "shocking and flagrant violations of the constitution". Its nine members had "set themselves up in supreme power" and invited foreign powers to interfere in the essentially internal affairs of the country.

The United States, Canada and France had helped to organize the elections. Washington promptly cut off military and non-humanitarian aid to Haiti within hours of the suspension of voting.

As gunfire continued early yesterday around a hotel where most foreign journalists are staying, the American

Embassy spokesman, Mr Jeffrey Lite, found himself in the embarrassing position of explaining to them at a news conference that US military aid had been aimed at training Haiti's security forces to handle civil disturbances.

"You can teach someone to drive a car," he pointed out lamely, "but you cannot make them drive it properly." Mr Lite spent much of the day using his bulletproof embassy vehicle to rescue journalists besieged by attackers around the city.

Two members of an American television crew were among Sunday's seriously wounded and a photographer from the Dominican Republic was shot dead.

Meanwhile, the Dominican Republic, on the eastern side of the island of Hispaniola, has announced the closure of its borders with Haiti and has sent a plane to pick up its nationals. Two US airlines have cancelled flights into Haiti.

PARIS: The former Haitian dictator, Mr Duvalier, now in exile in France, appealed yesterday in a statement issued by his lawyers for general reconciliation after Sunday's events (AFP reports).

## SDI cuts 'deal' by Nitze attacked

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr Paul Nitze, the Reagan Administration's senior arms control adviser, is under attack from key conservative Republicans in a campaign to save the controversial Strategic Defence Initiative from any further economic or political restraints.

The veteran negotiator has infuriated right-wingers by his apparent indirect contacts with Soviet scientists, which they suspect was part of "back-channel" efforts to reach agreement on cutbacks in the Star Wars programme in return for strategic weapons concessions by Moscow.

Senator Malcolm Wallop, a Republican from Wyoming, has asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to ascertain whether Mr Nitze has been secretly negotiating restraints on (SDI) research. Aides to Senator Wallop said Mr Nitze

Oslo - The former Norwegian Prime Minister, Mr Kaare Willoch, has withdrawn his candidacy for the post of Nato Secretary-General, a Norwegian Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday (Reuters reports).

briefed a team from the US National Academy of Sciences, which then met with Soviet scientists to discuss possible curbs on Star Wars. Conservatives feel that the unofficial talks could set the scene for compromises.

But the State Department strongly denied that Mr Nitze was doing anything improper. Officials said the whole affair had been overblown in conservative newspapers such as *The Washington Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. An FBI spokesman said the agency was investigating if it had any jurisdiction in the matter.

Conservatives are not sure how committed Mr Frank Carlucci, the successor to Mr Caspar Weinberger as Defence Secretary, really is to Star Wars. They heightened campaign for SDI is designed to prevent even the consideration of new limitations on the programme, already severely hurt by congressional budget cuts.

## Hawke to seal Soviet economic pact



Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, being shown the way by Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Soviet Prime Minister, after arriving in Moscow yesterday. The Australians on the three-day visit include 12 leading businessmen and a long-term economic co-operation accord will be signed today after Mr Hawke meets Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader.

## Ozal secures landslide victory

From Michael Dynes, Ankara

A jubilant Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister elected to serve his second five-year term of office with an impressive victory in Sunday's general election, left for the US today for a long overdue medical check-up.

The 61-year-old Prime Minister, who underwent triple heart bypass surgery in February - an operation which brings most political careers to an abrupt halt - was forced to postpone his examination in Houston for three months because a series of domestic developments required his presence at home.

There was intense speculation about the Prime Minister's health in the media after a slight haemorrhage forced him to cancel both of his campaign engagements in the run-up to Sunday's ballot.

Some observers had suggested that an early departure to America after the poll would indicate that Mr Ozal's health was more precarious than he had been prepared to disclose.

But sources in the Motherland Party have since dismissed such speculation as unwarranted, saying that Mr Ozal's overwhelming victory has removed any pressures that may have been on him to form a new government quickly - a ritualistic process that normally takes about three weeks.

As the final ballots from remote rural areas were being

Party	% of vote	Seats
Motherland	36.34	292
Soc Dem Populist	24.78	99
True Path	19.15	59
Democratic Left	8.5	0
Welfare	7.15	0
National Work	2.89	0
Independents	0.37	0
TOTAL	9.19	

Remainder accounted for by spoilt ballots, abstentions and handful of constituencies still to be counted.

counted, opposition leaders were stunned at the size of Mr Ozal's majority in the newly enlarged 450-seat national assembly.

According to the first unofficial results, with 99.6 per cent of the vote counted, Mr

Ozal's Motherland Party had secured 292 seats. Mr Erdal Inonu's Social Democratic Populist Party, 99 seats, and Mr Suleyman Demirel's True Path Party 59 seats.

The Islamic fundamentalist Welfare Party of Mr Necmettin Erbakan received seven per cent of the vote and the ultra-right National Work Party, led by Mr Alparslan Turkes, received just under three per cent of the votes. Neither party will be represented in Parliament.

Both main opposition leaders denounced as unjust an electoral system that gave the Motherland Party 64 per cent of parliamentary seats with slightly more than 36 per cent of the popular vote, and said that such a chronic distortion would erode Mr Ozal's moral authority.

Mr Inonu also accused Mr Bulent Ecevit, the leader of the Democratic Left Party, of dividing the left-wing vote and allowing the Motherland Party to obtain *carie blanche* in Parliament.

Mr Ecevit, having failed to cross the 10 per cent barrier required for representation with only seven per cent of the votes, yesterday announced his intention to retire from politics.

As Mr Inonu said that both parties on the left would have to consider seriously the benefits of a merger, Mr Ozal issued an immediate counterblast by stating that his most immediate goal was to arrange a merger with Mr Demirel's party in an effort to unite the Turkish right.

Mr Demirel has yet to respond to Mr Ozal's advances.

But while party leaders were trying to lay the foundations of the new two-party system, economic analysts were predicting a new round of price hikes and austerity measures similar to those introduced in January 1980, to resolve the country's growing economic difficulties, particularly inflation.

Leading article, page 17

## Call for peacekeeping force

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The United States has suspended virtually all military and economic aid to Haiti and is being widely urged to try to establish a regional peacekeeping force with other countries in the hemisphere to supervise future elections.

The Reagan Administration has for months resisted strong demands to cut off aid to Haiti in protest at rising official lawlessness. It has avoided public comment, a silence that has been widely interpreted as a gesture of support for the military-dominated Government of Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy.

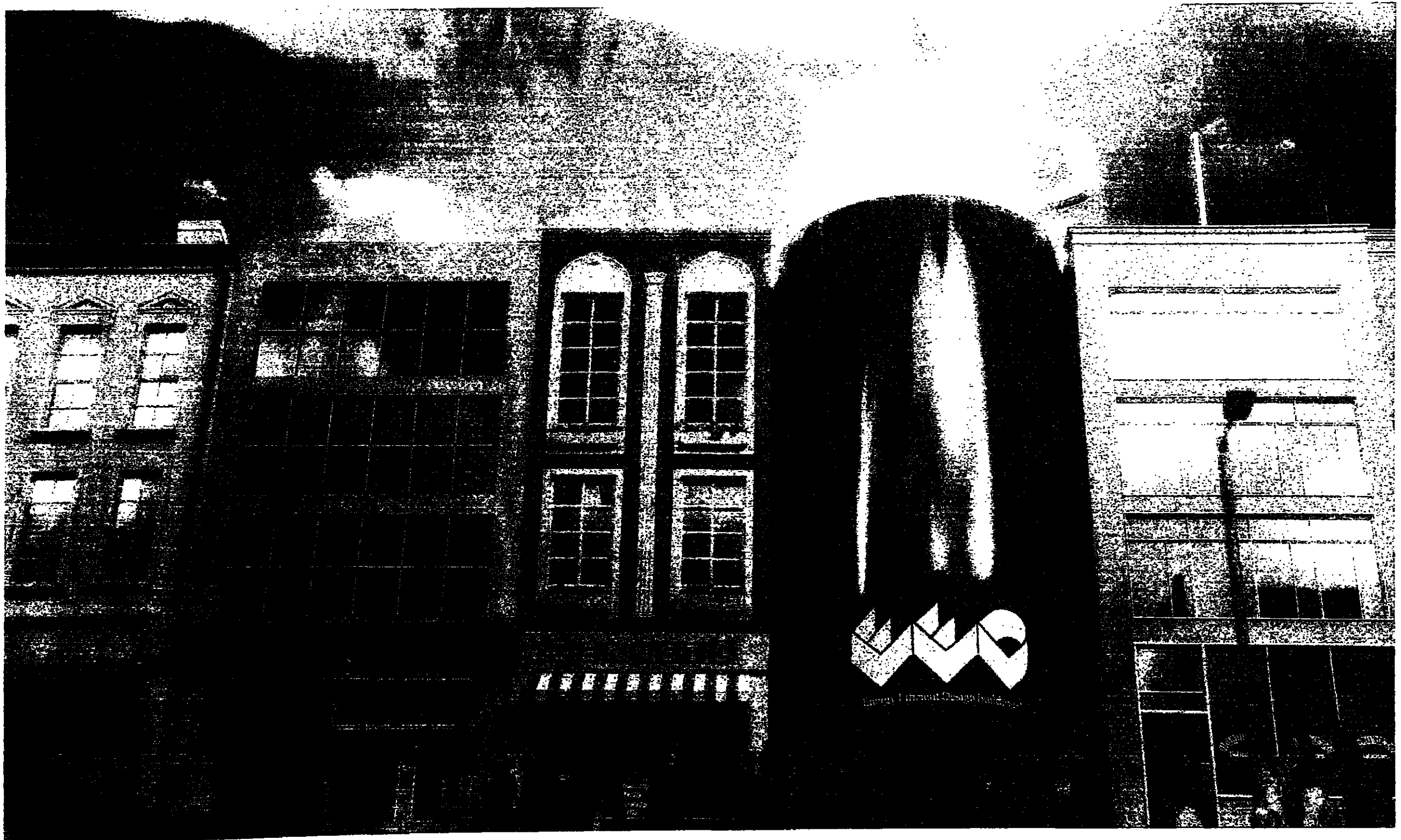
Exile groups have bitterly accused the Administration of ignoring the bloodshed. Mr Walter Fauntroy, the Democratic chairman of the congressional task force on Haiti, said yesterday that he had received eyewitness reports of people queuing up to vote "being mowed down with machine-gun fire" and then finished off with machetes. "The international community simply cannot stand by and allow this to happen," he said.

Asked if he was pressing for a US military intervention he responded: "I think the world,

with United States leadership, does now have to intervene or the Haitian people are lost to this gang of savage thugs."

The State Department, in a notably mild statement, said the ending of aid was in response to the action of Haiti's provisional Government in "dissolving the provisional electoral commission and abrogating all electoral legislation". The White House said cancellation of the election was "regrettable".

The US provided more than \$100 million (£54 million) in military and economic aid in 1986.



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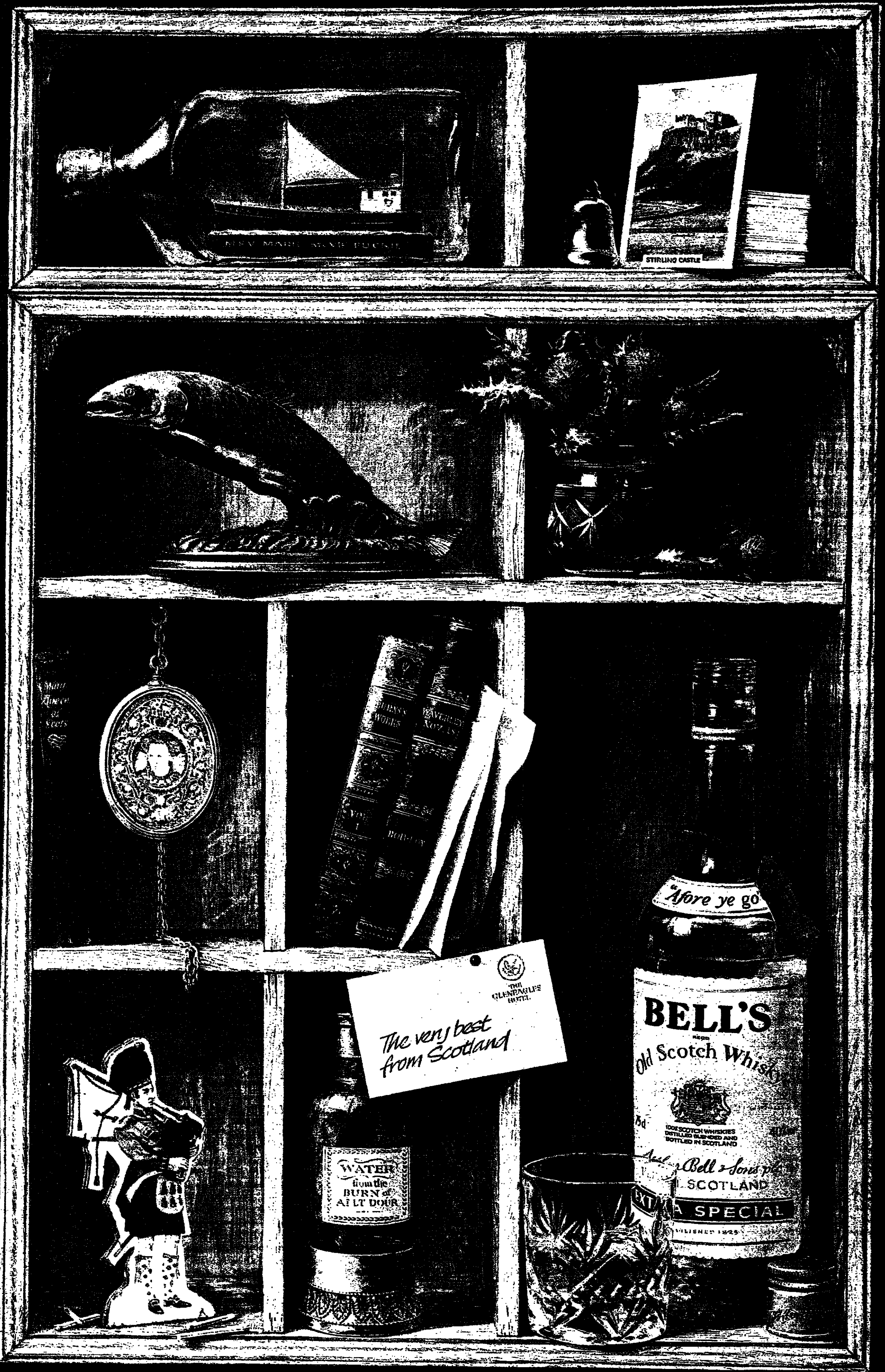
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# China and Laos agree to patch up eight-year split

From Robert Gries, Peking

China and Laos have formally agreed to improve diplomatic relations and exchange ambassadors after eight years of enmity, the New China News Agency said yesterday.

The announcement came at the end of a seven-day visit to China by Mr Kamphay Boupha, the Laotian first deputy Foreign Minister. "The two sides reached accord to restore friendly relations... and exchange ambassadors again," the agency said.

Mr Kamphay Boupha's visit marked the first trip to Peking by a top Vietnamese official since China and Laos split in 1979 over the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia. At that time diplomatic relations between the two countries were downgraded to the level of chargé d'affaires, and in retaliation for the invasion China launched a border war with Vietnam.

Laos is a close ally of the Soviet Union and Vietnam. China opposes the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia and Soviet support for Vietnam. Peking is said to be the chief weapons supplier to rebels fighting inside Cambodia to drive out the Vietnamese.

Some Western diplomats in Peking said that China's willingness to improve relations with Laos represents an

effort to isolate Vietnam from its allies.

Other analysts contended that Peking is prepared to consider a real change in its Indochina strategy, and that renewed ties with Laos marks the first step in Peking's rapprochement with Vietnam.

Vietnam is thought to have told the Laotian delegation how to present its case to Peking. Mr Kamphay Boupha's mission here may have been to forge warmer relations

## Army reform

Peking General Chi Haotian, China's new Chief of Staff, has pledged to speed up reforms in the armed forces (AFP reports). General Chi, who replaced General Yang Dezhi last week, told 100 high-ranking officers of the People's Liberation Army that the reforms would concentrate on training and equipment.

The army has recently undergone major changes with the demobilization of a quarter of its personnel.

with China in exchange for the promise of Chinese aid for his troubled and politically isolated country at some point in the future, diplomats said.

A spokesman at the Vietnamese Embassy in Peking

declined to comment on the accord.

In a related development, the Cambodian Prime Minister, Mr Hun Sen, was expected to meet Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Paris tomorrow. Peking nominally backs the coalition government that Prince Sihanouk has proposed to replace the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh regime, headed by Mr Heng Samrin.

According to the New China News Agency, the Laotian officials in Peking and their Chinese hosts last week also held talks on bilateral trade.

The agency said that Mr Kamphay Boupha held normalization talks with Mr Liu Shuqing, one of China's deputy foreign ministers, in a reconciliatory, candid and friendly atmosphere.

The Chinese have accepted Mr Kamphay Boupha's invitation to send another delegation to Laos to follow Mr Liu's visit to Vietnam in December 1986.

In recent years China has restored political ties with several Soviet-bloc countries in Eastern Europe. But Peking has refused to normalize relations with Moscow after an ideological split in the 1960s because of Soviet support for

Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and the massing of Russian troops along the Sino-Soviet border have exacerbated the situation.

Meanwhile, China announced an expected shake-up last week in the top command of the three-million-strong People's Liberation Army.

The staff changes were a continuation of the drive to make China's armed forces more professional and less political, and came after the retirement from key posts on November 1 of Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's senior leader, and most of the surviving "Long March" generation of conservative leaders.

General Yang Dezhi, aged 77, the PLA Chief of Staff and the top staff officer since March 1980, was replaced by Mr Chi Haotian, aged 62, the former political commissar of the Jinan Military Region. General Yu Qianli, aged 73, director of the General Political Department, was replaced by Mr Yang Baibing, aged 66, the former political commissar of the Peking Military District.

Mr Deng remains chairman of the party's powerful Central Military Commission. General Yang Shangkun was appointed permanent vice-chairman of the commission.

## Manila rebels give up fight



Major Ben-Hur Fernandez, the Philippines Army officer who led rebels against two television stations during the coup attempt three months ago, relaxing in Manila yesterday after giving himself up with four fellow officers. But there was still no sign of the chief rebel officer, Colonel Gregorio "Gringo"

Honasan, before yesterday's deadline for rebels who remained at large to be expelled from the armed forces (AP reports). The colonel, the country's most wanted fugitive, has told newsmen near the capital he enjoys eating take-away sushi and watching tapes of his television appearances.

## Typhoon's death toll may swell to 650

Manila - As relief operations continued yesterday in the Bicol region southeast of Manila, officials said as many as 650 people may have died when Typhoon Nina swept ashore last week (Humphrey Hawksley writes).

First reports put the death toll at around 200, but one local official spoke of bodies still being washed ashore in areas where huge waves destroyed fishing settlements. The high winds are said to have left as many as 350,000 people homeless, damaged some 30,000 houses and caused damage estimated at £15 million.

## Treason trial

Ho Chi Minh City (Reuters) - Vietnam will try 19 people - one of them posthumously - on charges of high treason and banditry in collusion with backers from Thailand, the United States and other countries, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

## Last edition

Jakarta (Reuters) - Indonesia's oldest newspaper, *Indonesia Merdeka* (Free Indonesia), has ceased publication after being banned without explanation by local authorities.

## Third test

Wellington (Reuters) - France has tested its third nuclear device in a month at Mururoa Atoll, a spokesman for the New Zealand Government's seismicological service said.

## Eleven die

Port-au-Prince, Venezuela (AP) - Eleven people, including a 22-year-old Venezuelan bride and her American husband, aged 24, died when a fire broke out at their wedding party in a luxury hotel.

## Ambush toll

Maputo (Reuters) - The number of people killed in last Saturday's rebel ambush on a road convoy in Mozambique has risen from 42 to 63, the semi-official newspaper, *Noticias*, reported.

## Train blaze

Delhi (AP) - At least 22 people were killed and 16 injured when fire broke out in a passenger train in the western state of Rajasthan.

## Election dilemma and market woes fuel fear about handover

From Peter Gilman  
Hong Kong

The British negotiators paving the way for the handing over of Hong Kong in 1997 face an awkward dilemma: how to reconcile the political expectations aroused in the colony by the 1984 treaty and China's evident preference that there should be no elections.

But a convenient solution may now have emerged from an elaborate opinion-sounding exercise, conducted by the Government, which has been heralded as demonstrating that, while the people of Hong Kong do indeed favour democratic elections, most do not want them just yet.

The treaty stipulates that Hong Kong is to be ruled by an elected assembly and an accountable chief executive - successor to the colonial governor. But just how such potent terms as "elected" and "accountable" are to be defined,

and when elections might begin, remain to be resolved.

One of the critics of the agreement who has cried "foul" most loudly is Mr Martin Lee, a disarmingly slight QC who is also a member of Hong Kong's Legislative Council, a body of limited powers dominated by the Governor's appointees. At a press conference last week in his chambers, Mr Lee, who strongly supports immediate elections, repeated his charge that the survey was, in effect, a fix.

The questionnaire was long and convoluted and the choice of elections in 1988 was offered only as a complicated sub-option.

The authoritative Hong Kong Statistical Society has called the survey "complex", "loaded" and prone to an "erroneous response". The *Far Eastern Economic Review* damned it as "blatantly rigged".

The Hong Kong Government prefers to regard Mr Lee as a gadfly

since he is so often quoted in the media. Mr John Chan, Hong Kong's deputy chief secretary, insists that, in any case, China's negotiating position in elections "remains to be tested".

Mr Lee is hoping to carry the fight to London but has met with a further rebuff. He is heading a delegation which is due to arrive on

## Shadows over Hong Kong Part 2

December 7, but which has been denied an audience with Mrs Thatcher or Sir Geoffrey Howe on the grounds that they are "particularly busy". Instead the delegation has been offered Lord Glenarthur, the junior minister covering Hong Kong, who has not cut an impressive figure on his visits here.

In addition, the delegation has been told that only those members who also belong to the legislative council will be received by Lord Glenarthur, thereby excluding seven of the 10-strong party. Mr Lee says he is "frustrated and angry" at these apparent snubs. A second delegation is going to lobby in China at the same time, but that has suffered a similar setback, having been told that no key officials will be available, leaving Mr Lee's group to suspect collusion between London and Peking.

In any case, they may already be too late, as Hong Kong's Governor, Sir David Wilson, is due in Peking for talks on December 4.

The Hong Kong Government has other worries. One concerns Hong Kong's standing following the four-day closure of the stock exchange and futures market at the height of this month's global financial storm, requiring a government-backed bail-out of £300 million,

and shredding its international reputation.

The stock market chairman, Mr Ronald Li, who was seen on British television threatening to have a reporter arrested for asking an impertinent question, is unrepentant. He calls his critics "jerks", condemns the press as "biased", and still believes that the offending journalist should be "investigated".

It has now emerged just how far the Government was taken unaware by the debacle. The Financial Secretary and his deputy were roused from their sleep by Mr Li before the closure - whether they were asked or merely informed remains a moot point.

Having regained their composure, officials are arguing that the world-record drop in the share index on the day the market reopened was in line with elsewhere, and that overdue reforms will be carried out.

They go on to make a more substantial point. The assistant Financial Secretary, Mr David Neundick, gestures from his office to Hong Kong's rising tower blocks as emblems of international confidence on its future. He adds: "Look at the behaviour of China."

The People's Republic has indeed been steadily investing in Hong Kong's future, cannily buying into banks, hotels and property at opportune moments. That leads to the Government's single most persuasive response to its critics: that China has an overriding interest in maintaining Hong Kong's stability and prosperity.

The argument requires a leap of faith that many in Hong Kong are still not prepared to make. And even if the fears over 1997 are exaggerated, they remain a political reality which the Government has yet to counter.

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## SPECTRUM 1

# The man with Chunnel vision

John Reeve had a dream to build a tunnel under the Channel. Today, as project leader, his ambition will begin to come true. Brian James spoke to him

When he was 20 and just beginning a career putting up buildings and laying down roads, John Reeve would answer friends thus: "Ambition? To build a tunnel across to France. But it will be the last thing I do before I retire". This jokey, cocky throw-away line was no less than prophecy.

When today the first metre of mud is sucked from the workings below the cliffs near Folkestone, John Reeve, as joint director-general of Transmanche-Link, will be in charge of the British part of the £6 billion task of linking this island with Europe.

"I was not entirely serious," says Reeve, now 58. "It was like saying I wanted to walk on the moon, it had that sort of quality about it. Yet even then I could see that in civil engineering this was the thing that most needed to be done someday. What would I compare it with? Well I wasn't around when Hadrian built his wall, but in terms of scale and importance, this is another Aswan Dam."

Odd then that when the boring machine, a 250-foot monster corkscrew made from 50 lorry-loads of pieces, starts to claw away at an old abandoned tunnel-face, 400 yards down and just under the sea beneath Shakespeare Cliff, Reeve will be absent.

"Yes it's a symbolic moment. But there will be others." The real reason he won't be there is that he knows that this giant borer will start on time: he put on his hard hat and trudged to watch it being kicked into life as a check a day or two ago.

Not taking chances that others have done their job is what Reeve does best. He calls it "having an instinct for snags on the critical path before they become critical". It was what put him in charge of multi-million pound projects across the Middle East; it earned him an OBE for bringing the Thames Barrage to completion; and it is why the owners of the 10 companies building the tunnel sleep fairly well, considering the risk they face.

For every day beyond the scheduled date for the first train to rattle through (in May 1993), the constructors will be fined £333,000, a fine that soon rises to £500,000 per day. "There is a



John Reeve at Shakespeare Cliff, where a trial dig was abandoned in 1974: "We'll have it right. We might be an inch out. We won't be a foot. That would be too embarrassing"

penalty ceiling of £163 million," says Reeve. "But if we reach that then all in the consortium will have slaved for six years for nothing. My job is not to let that happen."

Why such colossal penalties? "It is not because the public can't wait another few days, having waited since the beginning of time. But the owners need the income when we said they would get it. And the world banks need reassurance: they have put up five billion pounds in loans and would pull the plug if this started to slip a year or so behind."

It does not help that some aspects of the design work are two months behind, that the recent gale blew down offices in the shanty town (with a coming population of 4,000) that had grown up along the cliff, or that Reeve knows that down there beneath the Channel something unexpected probably lurks.

"We are using state-of-the-art technology, tried methods, because this is no project for wild-blue-yonder experiments. We know what we are dealing with, that we won't suddenly be tunnel-

ling through a lake of treacle. But Mother Nature always has something new to offer."

It is likely, for instance, that the 1,500 men at the tunnel face will have to stop suddenly sometime and plug a hole in the roof over their heads. "At least 50 boreholes have been driven into the seabed during the 200 years people have been trying to build this tunnel. We know where most of them think they put those holes. But they didn't have satellites and lasers to help them... they measured with bits of string."

Will lasers help him get the most essential measurement right, so that when the moment comes to link-up and peer through a hole at the French tunnellers working out from Calais, he will be peering at a French eyeball, and not a French knee?

Reeve gave the polite chuckle of the man who has heard all the jokes: "We'll have it right. We might be an inch out. We won't be a foot. Too many men will be watching the driver of the boring machine - they know how easy it is to wander just ever so slightly off line. That would be just too

embarrassing on a thing that the whole world is watching."

It seemed a pity that in this highly complex, multi-disciplined engineering age this tunnel would not be seen as monument to one man, like a bridge by Brunel or Telford. "Quite wrong. This is 'My Tunnel'. Telford may have his name on the bridge, but the bloke who painted it would have taken his kids to see his work. Same here, this is 'My Tunnel' for all 4,000 of us. There is enthusiasm to have a hand in history even among the smallest sub-contractors."

But such enthusiasm, he knows, is not universal. "I have not been to a dinner party for years at which, as soon as people knew what I was up to, I did not get all the objections trotted out. Rabid rats scuttling through. Rabid rats scuttling through. Rabid rats scuttling through. How the Germans would have poured through in 1940..."

"You deal with these one by one. Point out, for example, that if we had had the tunnel in 1940 we

wouldn't have needed little ships at Dunkirk... just told the lads to walk back - and would the last one through please pull the plug. When you finish giving all the practical answers, they stare at you and say 'OK, OK. But in my blood I am an islander and I want to stay that way'."

"There is not too much to say to that. I partly understand it. But economically and strategically we are part of Europe, and if we want any big part in the future we have to accept that. Why not look at the benefits: a day out in Paris by the year 2000 will be as easy as a day out in London."

How does John Reeve get on with the French? "About as easily as they get on with me," he said, and the value of that answer increases when you know of his hard man in a hard hat reputation in the construction industry (it was not nice table manners that finally brought in the strike-ridden Thames Barrier, albeit three times over budget).

"There will be difficulties. Not because of the language (we are bad, they are brilliant). Not because of cussedness. But

whether it is history, culture or what they eat, our brains work differently. We can sit down with our opposite numbers and in three minutes reach absolute agreement on any objective. And with five more minutes each side will have fixed on precisely opposite means of achieving it. Not often. Always."

The tunnel will not make us all some sort of part-time Frenchman, will not in any sense diminish Britain, insists John Reeve. Indeed, it will actually enlarge this island - half the 7,500,000 cubic metres of rock taken from beneath the sea will build an amenity area a kilometre long at the foot of the cliffs.

He said that in the brave tone of a man who does not expect to be believed. The emotional revision of many to the notion of a permanent Britain-to-Europe link is not something that can be traded off for an extra silver added to Kent.

John Reeve will not be a public hero for this. The joy he will carry into that late retirement is the attainment of ambition... to have walked on his own moon.

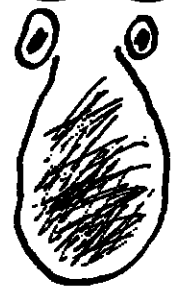
## STEPPING STONES

- 1802: French engineer Mathieu's plans for a tunnel approved by Napoleon. But project abandoned.
- 1856: Thomas de Gamond submits new tunnel scheme to Napoleon III.
- 1866: Sir John Hawkshaw makes trial borings at St Margaret's Bay, Kent and Sangatte.
- 1868: International committee reports tunnel could be completed within 10 years. Inquiry interrupted by Franco-Prussian War.
- 1874: Joint Anglo-French commission appointed.
- 1875: Parliament authorizes Channel Tunnel Company for preliminary work.
- 1882: New Submarine Continental Railway Company seeks Bill to start tunnel from Shakespeare Cliff.
- 1884: House of Commons defeats Bill.
- 1919: South Eastern & Chatham Railway gets permission to drive tunnel.
- 1923: 420 feet of new trial tunnel dug near Folkestone.
- 1930: Parliament votes against tunnel, put off by the spectre of invasion.
- 1957: Channel Tunnel Study Group formed.
- 1960: CTS suggests the construction of twin rail tunnels.
- 1964: British and French governments announce approval of the railway tunnel scheme.
- 1971: British and French companies established.
- 1974: Attempt abandoned after a trial bore of 800 feet is made from Shakespeare Cliff.
- 1980: British government declares support for a privately funded cross-Channel fixed link.
- 1981: Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand commission a joint study.
- 1984: Thatcher and Mitterrand agree on the concept of a fixed link.
- 1986: Winning consortium announced - the Channel Tunnel Group/France Manche, later renamed Eurotunnel.
- 1987: Thatcher and Mitterrand meet in Paris to exchange instruments ratifying the Franco-British Treaty. The tunnel begins.

## TUNNEL STATISTICS

- Number of tunnels: three. Two, in which trains will operate, will have a diameter of almost 8 metres, and there will be a service tunnel of nearly 5 metres diameter, which will lie below them.
- Estimated construction costs at 1986 prices: £2.7 billion. This will almost double when inflation, interest charges and other costs are added.
- Tunnel length: 49.4 kilometres of which 38 kilometres will be beneath the sea bed.
- Depth beneath the sea bed: 25-40 metres.
- Volume of concrete: 2.2 million cubic metres.
- Weight of cement for concrete and grouting: 957,000 tonnes.
- Aggregate: 6.5 million tonnes.
- Tunnel boring machines: 11.
- Average removal of chalk: 102,000 cubic metres a month.
- Average tunnelling progress per month: 2,700 metres for main tunnels and 1,450 metres for service tunnel.

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## How on earth do you handle the question 'Why did you kill Jesus?'

The idea of prospective Roman Catholic and Anglican priests volunteering to spend the Sabbath in Jewish homes and synagogues (or of Jewish families inviting them to do so) would have seemed far-fetched only a few years ago.

Yet this was the third time it has happened at Leo Baeck College, part of the Sternberg Centre for Judaism in Finchley, north London. Within a week of being announced, the seminar was swamped with applicants. The chief attraction, most Christian students agreed, was the rare chance to meet practising Jews in their homes celebrating *Shabbat*, the Jewish Sabbath.

The idea of mixing young people of the two faiths was initiated six years ago by a Roman Catholic nun, Sister Margaret Shepherd. A slight, intense woman with piercing blue eyes, she joined the Sisters of Zion, whose task is to heal relations between Christians and Jews. "I experienced a conviction as strong as my vocation that I

Why Jewish families are inviting Christian students to share their Sabbath

belonged in this area," she explained.

One of her first actions was to take a three-year course in Rabbinic Studies at Leo Baeck College - their first full-time Christian student, for whom they invented a special diploma. "I wouldn't have the *chutzpah* to say that I know as much as a rabbi but I have been told that I do." She is proud of the fact that she and her sister nuns are now trusted by the Jewish community.

"Judaism is making efforts to explain itself - witness the rabbis on the radio," says Dr Jonathan Magonet, the college's principal. "But it is not so much our initiative as our response to the change in the Christian church's teaching on the Jews. Even 10 years ago



Pulling no punches about the obstacles: Rabbi Hugo Gryn

what experience Christians had of Jews would have been coloured by 2,000 years of anti-Jewish teaching. Now we have Christian students, and Christian seminaries have rabbis as lecturers."

Christians far outnumbered the 16 Jewish students at the college who are training as rabbis, but the 75 Jewish families who had volunteered to be their hosts were the real educators of the course. There were also lectures by Jewish scholars such as Rabbi Dr Hugo Gryn, of the West London Synagogue, who pulled no punches about the obstacles that divide the two faiths - not only theological, but attitudes to the state of Israel and to the Holocaust (he is a survivor of a concentration camp).

"Is any Jewish-Christian

dialogue, it is difficult not to sound aggrieved," he told them. "The Jews have a long list of wrongs they would like to put right. The Christians are not entirely sure what they want. Jews are uncertain how to handle themselves when theological questions come up. How do you handle the question 'Why did you kill Jesus?'

"After 2,000 years there is still very little understanding of Christianity among Jews. I would not like to take a poll on how many of them had read the New Testament. Speaking of each other free of all stereotypes is a new experience for both of us. A high degree of trust is needed." He was warmly applauded for offering this Jewish scepticism rather than facile optimism about the process.

Many students, Christian and Jewish, saw their encounter as a means to overcome prejudice and ignorance. "We're not here to hold a debate but to experience each other, rather than read books or attend lectures on each other's faith," said a Jewish rabbinical student, Aviva Kipen. "It's a demystifying process."

All the students had been taught a good deal about Judaism already, but said that being accepted into a Jewish home was a far more instructive experience. "You can't get closer than being with a Jewish family over *Shabbat*. Until you do that, you don't really know what it's about," said Gail Harban, a Methodist student. "It brought home to me the universality of the God we all acknowledge in different revelations," said Catherine Kilby, a Catholic.

A Jewish student, Laura Novak, attributed the suspicion of some Jews to generations of Christian missionary zeal. "Most Jews haven't read the New Testament - they just know they are not supposed to believe in it. I think they should learn about it to remove this fear, so they know what it is they don't believe."

For the 125 who attended - many of whom will probably become religious or community leaders - there will be no excuse any longer for not knowing how Jewish life and worship feels from the inside.

Peter Lewis

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## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1427

- ACROSS
- 1 Deep concave moulding (6)
  - 5 Liverpudlian (6)
  - 8 Drain off (3)
  - 9 Jump price (6)
  - 10 Uproar (6)
  - 11 Cut back (4)
  - 12 Contracted to train (8)
  - 14 Napoleon's victories memorial (3,2,8)
  - 17 Informal photo (8)
  - 19 As well (4)
  - 21 Frankfurt roll (6)
  - 23 Male/female (6)
  - 24 Say further (3)
  - 25 Concealed marksmen (6)
  - 26 Looking over (6)

- DOWN
- 2 Conflict (5)
  - 3 Concealed (7,2)
  - 4 Bitumen surface (7)
  - 5 Pleasure pastime (5)
  - 6 Frequently (3)
  - 7 Howl (7)
  - 8 Bell tower (9)
  - 15 Summary (7)
  - 16 Burn in (7)
  - 18 Vicious cartoon character (5)
  - 20 Fierce (5)
  - 22 Go down (3)

### SOLUTION TO NO 1426

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DOWN: 2 Kudon 3 Leo 4 Belisha beacon 5 Dent 6 Fellini 7 Dhoobi 10 Nigh 12 Nest 14 Wipe 15 Terrace 16 Clod 17 Sever 20 Aclit 21 Star 23 Woo

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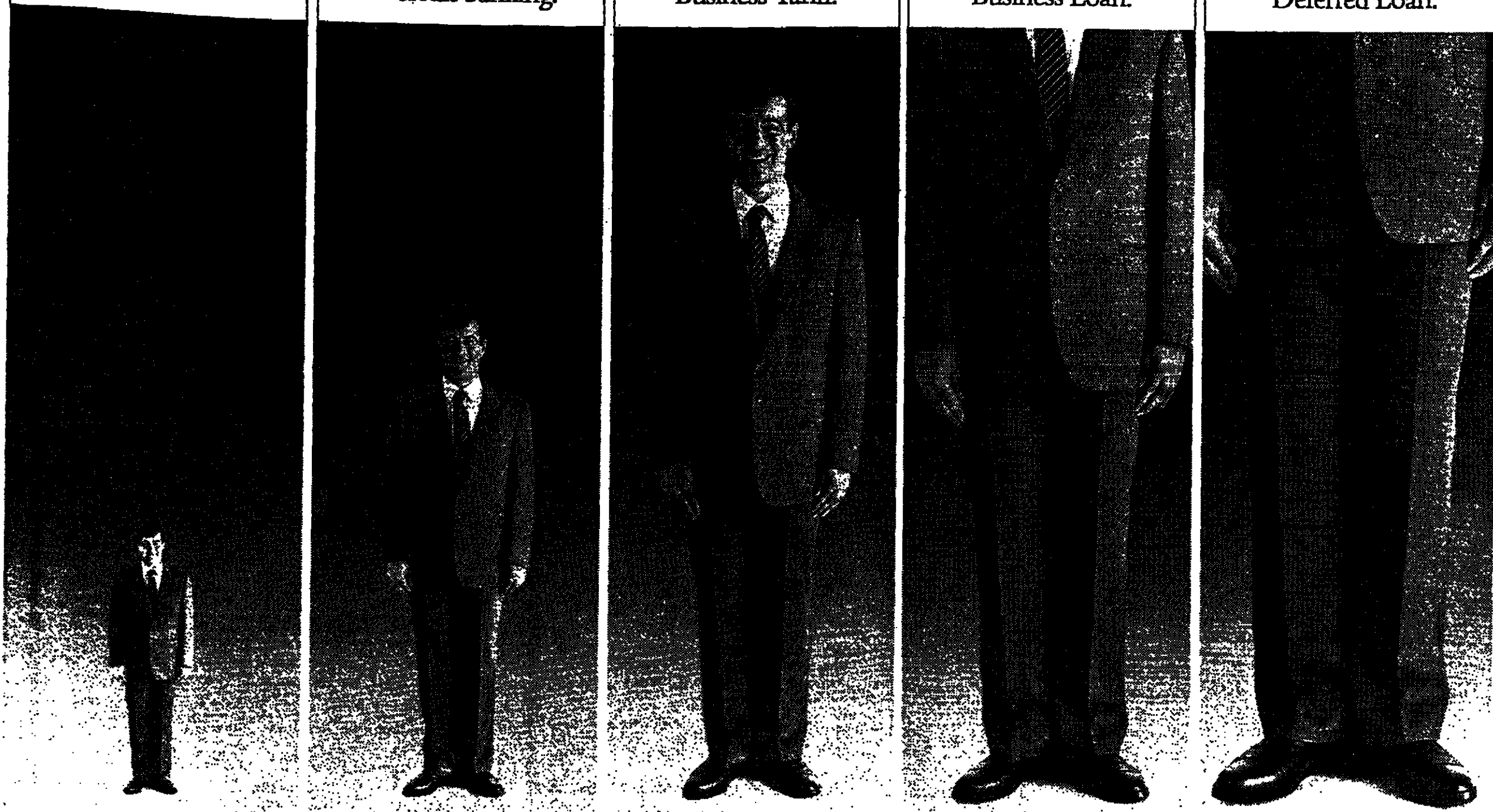
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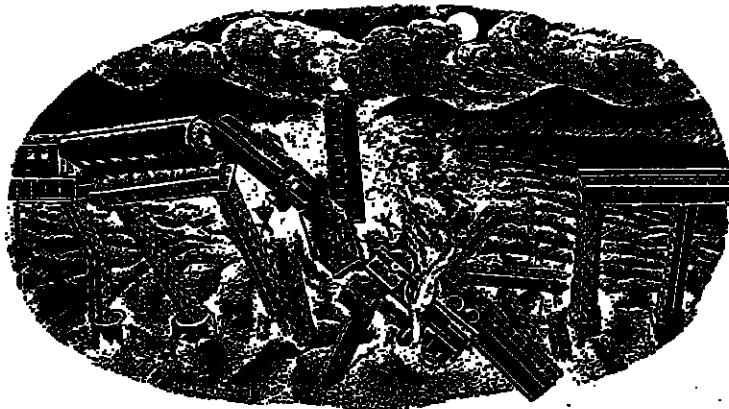
The GQ-3500 produces professional-quality artwork with fully-formed headlines, typeset copy and superb graphics that will put any typed-and-photocopied effort to shame.

Moreover, it can do this far faster and cheaper than any design studio or printing shop.

One man who could certainly have done with it was the 19th-century Scottish poet William McGonagall.

For reasons that will become obvious, he could not get anyone to publish his 'Poetic Gems' and so had to pay a local printer to do the job.

If he'd had a GQ-3500 on his desktop, however, he could have published them himself and made them look as impressive as this:



## THE TAY BRIDGE DISASTER

BEAUTIFUL Railway Bridge of the Silvery Tay!  
Alas! I am very sorry to say  
That ninety lives have been taken away  
On the last Sabbath day of 1879,  
Which will be remember'd for a very long time...

## THE BATTLE OF EL-TEB

YE sons of Great Britain, I think no shame  
To write in praise of brave General Graham!  
Whose name will be handed down to posterity without any stigma,  
Because, at the battle of El-Teib, he defeated Osman Digna...

## THE MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF ROBERT ALLAN, THE FIREMAN

WAS in the year of 1888, and on October the fourteenth day,  
That a fire broke out in a warehouse, and for hours blazed away;  
And the warehouse, now destroyed, was occupied by the Messrs  
R. Whyte, Hill & Co.,  
Situated in Buchanan Street, in the City of Glasgow.

## JENNY CARRISTER, THE HEROINE OF LUCKNOW-MINE

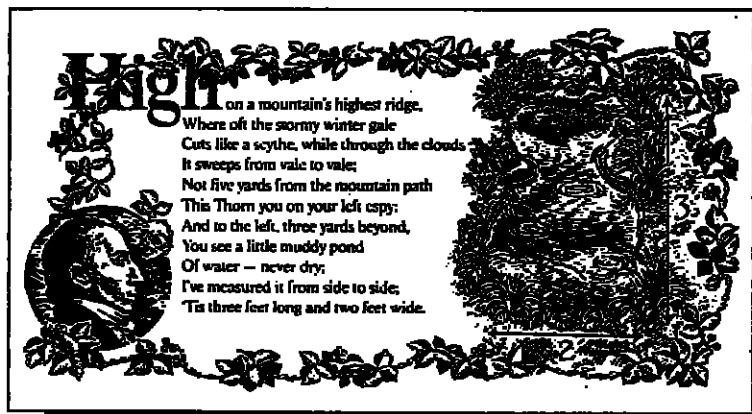
A HEROIC story I will unfold,  
Concerning Jenny Carrister, a heroine bold,  
Who lived in Australia, at a gold mine called Lucknow,  
And Jenny was beloved by the five miners, somehow...

Since McGonagall was such a prolific poet, and because his compositions tended to be great in length (if not in quality), he would doubtless have appreciated the speed of the GQ-3500. (It prints six A4 pages per minute.)

And being a canny Scot, he would also have approved of its modest price — a mere £1,795 (RRP, excluding VAT) but including a Hewlett Packard emulation card which would cost around £125 to buy separately.)

Yet William McGonagall was not the only poet whose work would have benefited from laser printing.

In the following bathetic extract from 'The Thorn', William Wordsworth shows just why people left him to wander lonely as a cloud.



At least with the GQ-3500, Wordsworth could have illustrated his concern for the puddle's exact dimensions with an accurate diagram of it.

Several present-day novelists spring to mind whose work would be greatly improved by laser printing.

But rather than risk a heavy libel suit, we have again chosen a writer from the 19th century.

Here are the opening lines of two novels by Edward George Earle Bulwer-Lytton — and as you will see, they need far more than the usual printer graphics, such as bar graphs and pie charts, to make them look good:



“It was a dark and stormy night; the rain fell in torrents — except at occasional intervals, when it was checked by a violent gust of wind which swept up the streets (for it is in London that our scene lies), rattling along the housetops, and fiercely agitating the scanty flame of the lamps that struggled against the darkness.”

From 'Paul Clifford' (1830).

“Ho, Diomed, well met! Do you sup with Glaucus tonight?” said a young man of small stature, who wore his tunic in those loose and effeminate folds which proved him to be a gentleman and a coxcomb.”

From 'The Last Days of Pompeii' (1834).

Surprisingly, Bulwer-Lytton was second in popularity only to Charles Dickens in his day.

Today, he is chiefly remembered as the inspiration for the Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest, held every year in the United States.

The aim is to write the worst possible opening sentence for an imaginary novel — and the following entries were awfully successful:



The camel died quite suddenly on the second day, and Selena fretted sulky and, buffing her already impeccable nails — not for the first time since the journey began — pondered snidely if this would dissolve into a vignette of minor inconveniences like all the other holidays spent with Basil.

He was a Portuguese who had never fished and she was a Chinese who couldn't cook rice; he had enough hair on his chest to make a coat for a very small Hungarian and the way she kissed it made him wonder why.

Pigotghr had hidden his msktrhd in the mothcenhth, and now he had taken the beautiful and magical Mekthm and her infant Trnylp there, too, and they all trembled as they heard the fearful chlems of the invading Hmnews just above.

You will notice that each entry has been produced in a different typeface. Changing between the seven resident fonts on the GQ-3500 is even simpler than McGonagall, thanks to the LED 'Selectype' panel on the front — and other fonts can easily be engaged by inserting special 'credit cards' into slots on the side of the machine.

In a previous Epson advertisement, we suggested that the near-silent SQ-2500 ink-jet printer was the only machine that the near-silent President Calvin Coolidge would have allowed in his office.

However, the GQ-3500 is so quiet, he would surely have approved of this as well.

For making bad writing look good, though, it would have been of more use to Coolidge's immediate predecessor in the White House:



Warren Gamaliel Harding,  
President of the  
United States 1921-1923.

# HARDING

“I would like the government to do all it can to mitigate, then, in understanding, in mutuality of interest, in concern for the common good, our tasks will be solved.”

“I have had the good intention to write you a letter ever since you left, but the pressure of things has prevented, speeches to prepare and deliver, and seeing people, make a very exacting penalty of trying to be in politics.”

“I carry no bitterness in my heart which dates from 1912.”

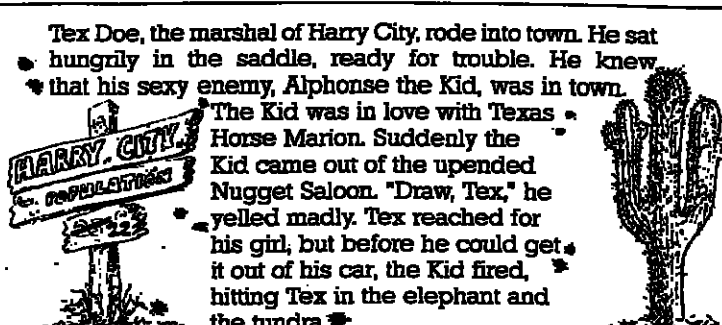
“America's present need is not heroics but healing; not nostrums but normalcy.”

“Progress is not proclamation nor palaver. It is not pretence nor play on prejudice. It is not the perturbation of a people passion-wrought, nor a promise proposed.”

The GQ-3500 is certainly very flexible. It has an IBM character set fitted as standard, and both parallel and serial interface options are available to allow it to work with virtually any computer.

Gilbert Bohuslav should have used one with his DEC PDP 11/70 in Houston, Texas.

He had managed to teach it how to play chess — but when he tried to get it to write a Western story, this was the result:



Tex Doe, the marshal of Harry City, rode into town. He sat hungrily in the saddle, ready for trouble. He knew that his sexy enemy, Alphonse the Kid, was in town.

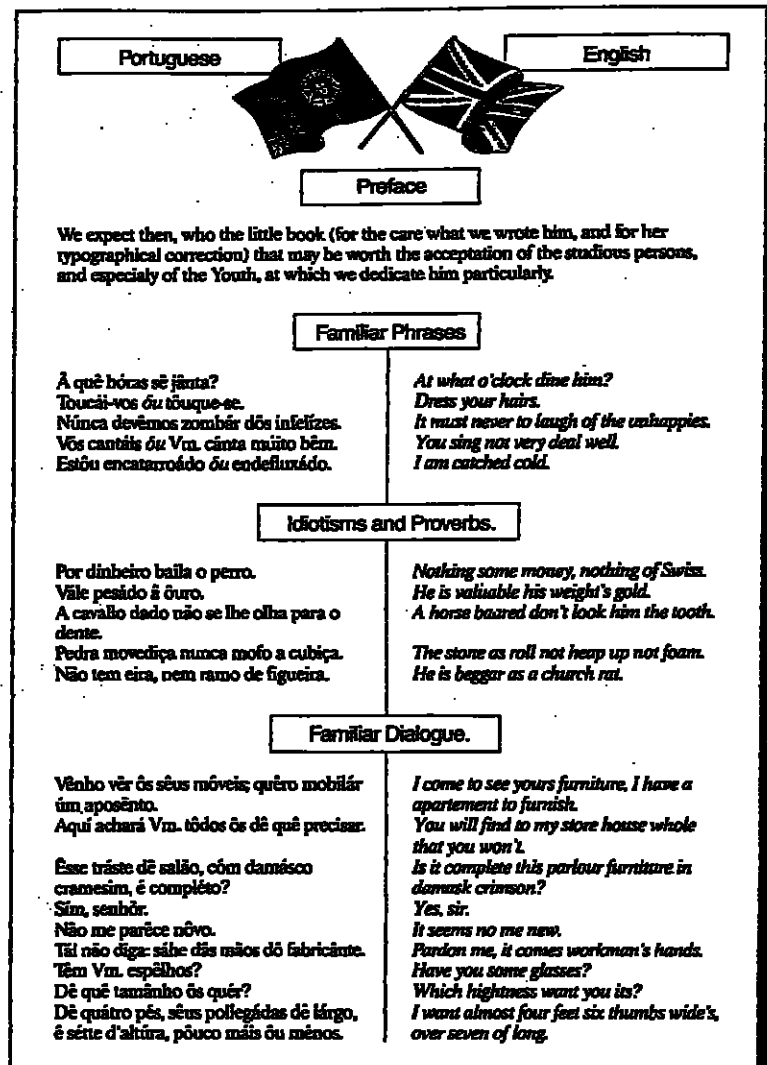
The Kid was in love with Texas Horse Marion. Suddenly the Kid came out of the upended Nugget Saloon. “Draw, Tex,” he yelled madly. Tex reached for his girl, but before he could get it out of his car, the Kid fired, hitting Tex in the elephant and the tundra.

As Tex fell, he pulled out his own chess board and shot the Kid 35 times in the King. The Kid dropped in a pool of whisky. “Aha,” Tex said, “I hated to do it but he was on the wrong side of the Queen.”

Hardly a memorable composition, you will agree — but with the help of all the graphics stored in its own powerful 640K memory (expandable to 1.5Mb), the GQ-3500 does make it appear accomplished.

Like all Epson printers, the GQ-3500 has a full international character set built in, which would have made it perfect for Pedro Carolino.

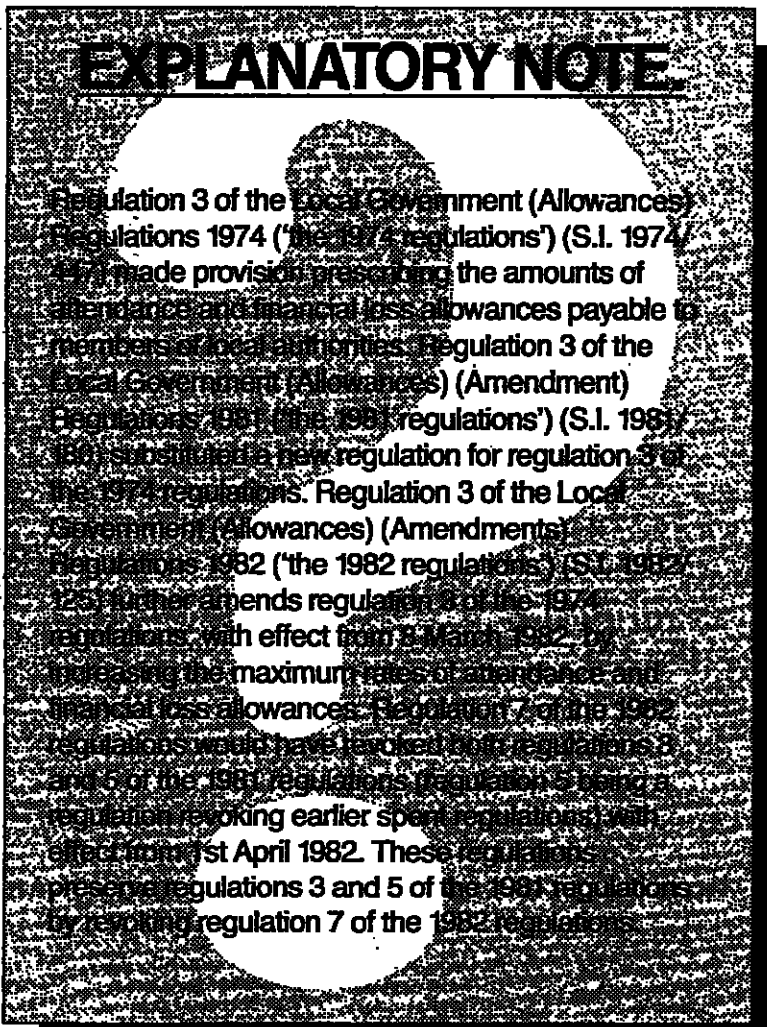
He was a Portuguese who spoke no English — but he did not allow this to stop him from writing a phrasebook with the help of his Portuguese-French and French-English dictionaries.



On the subject of size, the GQ-3500 has a height of only 8.46 thumbs, has one foot 3.9 thumbs wide's and one foot 4.4 of long. This makes it the most compact laser printer you can buy.

The list of possible applications is virtually endless.

You can use the GQ-3500 to print anything from simple memos and letters to full-blown official documents. It can even make government regulations appear interesting:



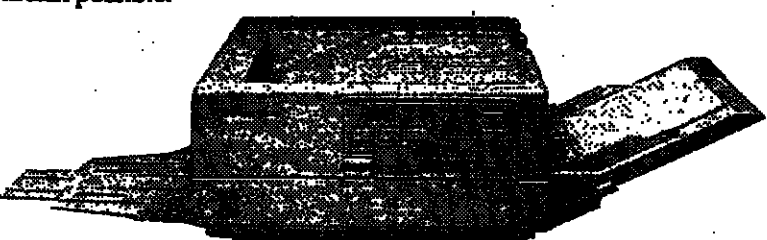
Unfortunately, it cannot save them from being as comprehensible as the average computer manual.

(The GQ-3500, on the other hand, is extremely easy to operate and maintain — though as you would expect of an Epson, it is exceptionally reliable.)

You have now seen the proof that laser printing can make even the worst writing appear polished — so just imagine what it could do for yours.

Find out more about the GQ-3500 by writing to: Epson (U.K.) Limited, Freeport, Birmingham B37 5BR. (Alternatively, call up Prestel \*280# or ring 0800 289622 free of charge.)

You could soon be looking gooder in print than you ever think possible.



EPSON

Bulwer-Lytton Contest entries reproduced from 'It was a Dark and Stormy Night' ed. Scott Rice (1984); 'Explanatory Note' from 'Gobbledygook' by the Plain English Campaign (1984).



## SPECTRUM 2

# Prisoners who prayed for peace

Today, a visit to Changi in Singapore is likely to mean a fleeting encounter with one of the world's most luxurious airports. But 45 years ago, for 85,000 Allied troops, passing through Changi meant terrifying imprisonment under the Japanese before leaving for the Burma-Siam railway. For many it was the beginning of the end.

Some of those who did survive still return to the scene of that terror, sometimes to remind their children and grandchildren, often to remember comrades who were not so lucky. Next week, in the grounds of the notorious Changi prison, the memory of its former inmates will be honoured by the opening of a small museum and a replica of one of the crudely constructed chapels the POWs built for themselves.

"There were originally 14 of these chapels scattered around the area," development officer Bajjantar Singh says. "They were made out of scraps of wood with roofs of coconut leaves and outdoor seating. The prisoners often came to find solace. When they came back to visit they may just like to sit and quietly remember."

Only one of the original chapels survived the war. That was packed into crates and shipped to Australia, where it remained unopened until this year, when it was decided to re-erect it in the grounds of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, for the benefit of Australian ex-POWs. The Changi replica was started in July, its plans based on an actual wartime construction.

An average of three coachloads of visitors a day still arrive at the prison. There has been little for them to see, the building having long since reverted to its original function as a civilian jail. It is hoped that the chapel and the adjacent museum will go some way towards capturing the spirit that sustained the

From wood and coconut leaves, POWs at Changi built 14 chapels.

Now, as Steve Turner reports, a replica is planned in their honour

British and Australian troops through those dark years.

A conflict of interests could arise, though, between what the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board would like to see as part of its Battle of Singapore project, and what ex-POWs feel is appropriate. The board, in appealing for souvenirs, uniforms, diaries, letters, drawings and photographs to display, has said that it does not want to exhibit "any of the bloodier stuff", aware perhaps that Japan too is now a good source of tourists. It also wants to market souvenirs, including handicrafts made by present inmates of the prison.

Harold Payne, national president of the Federation of Far Eastern Prisoner of War Clubs, who as a young lieutenant in the Royal Artillery was imprisoned in Changi, says: "I'm all for having a museum provided it doesn't turn into a commercial playground with native stalls. That's one of my biggest moans about a certain bridge in Thailand, which has turned into a tourist fairground with light and sound shows."

He can recall the 15-mile march the soldiers had to make to Changi within two days of the fall of Singapore, on February 15 1942. "When Changi is mentioned people immediately think of the prison, but it was the whole area of Changi where we were shoved into," he says. "Then of course some of us were for a time in the actual prison: sharing cells - I shared one with three people."

The makeshift chapels with their open-air seating are one

part of Changi he remembers with affection. "When you haven't got anything you have to find something to have faith in," he says. "It gave people an opportunity to be together with one thing in mind. Without having something to live for you might as well have packed up."

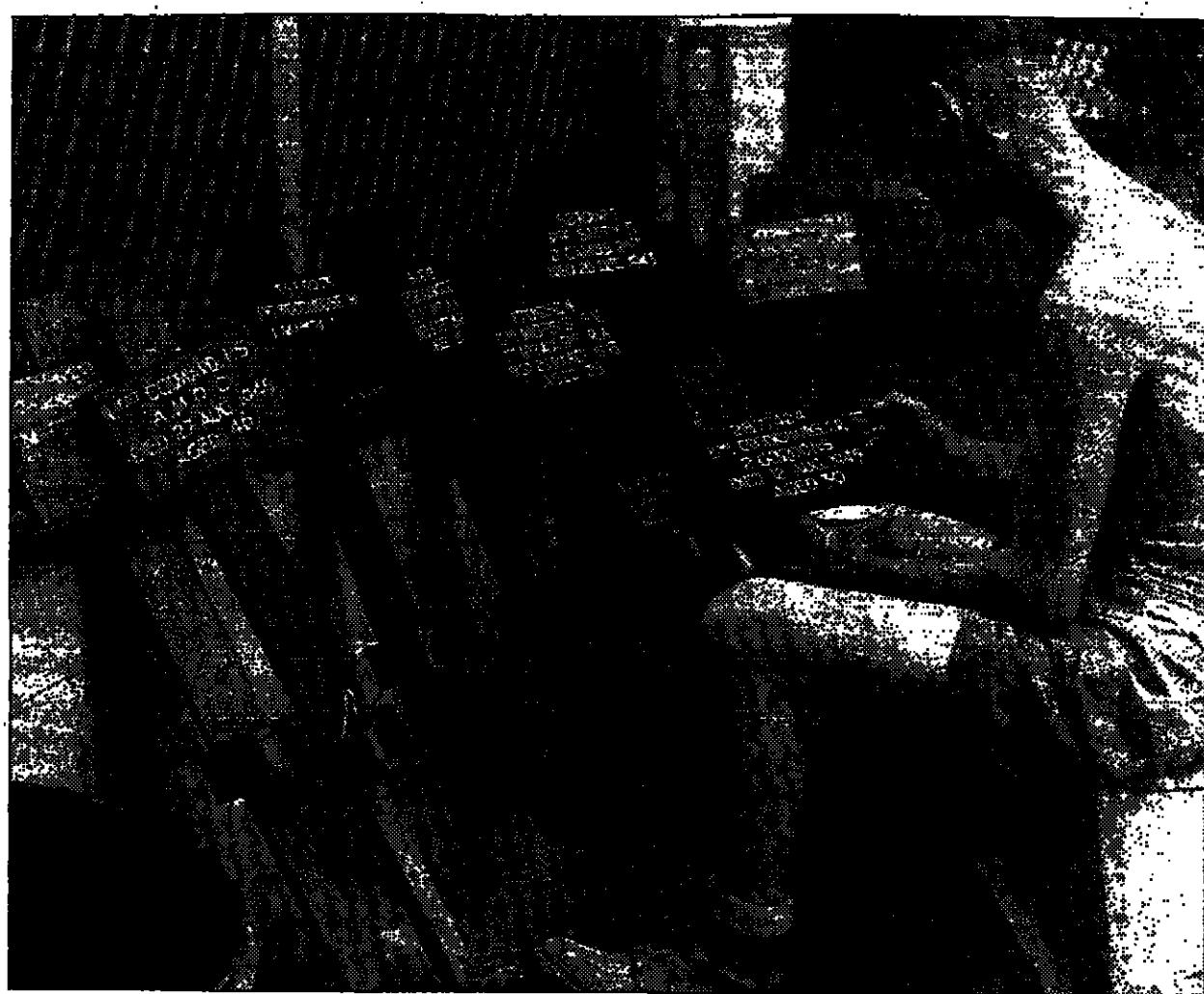
The Changi project is the start of a five-year plan to highlight the major sites of the wartime occupation of Singapore. Besides mementoes, the museum is eventually to contain a resource centre with books, documents, and videotapes of former prisoners talk-

ing about their experiences. "We want this to be a living museum," Singh stresses. "We want to hear not only from those who were in prison but from their families."

Harold Payne's strongest memory of Changi is the terrible fear. Thousands of Chinese had been decapitated on the island and there was an understanding that the Japanese had no time for keeping prisoners.

"We started off dejected but soon realized that we had to make the best of the thing," he remembers. "Our particular organization, which now has 68 associations throughout the country, has a motto, which is to keep going the spirit that kept us going. We learnt very quickly that you can't live without your fellow man. That's why our organization is still strong to this day."

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In loving memory: those who survived defied the Japanese and made a wooden cross for each of the 800 who died in Changi

## A rattling good idea

● They seemed to have vanished for ever, but a new generation of trams is being promoted as a rapid, self-financing answer to transport problems

"Tramways, if not an obsolete form of transport, are at all events in a state of obsolescence... and we recommend that they should gradually disappear." Superbly oblivious of this damning judgement (from a 1931 Royal Commission on Transport), the clang clang clang of the trolley is due to be heard again in Bristol, while the ding ding ding of the bell is also in prospect in Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield and Edinburgh.

Richard Cottrell, Conservative Euro-MP for Bristol, is a pace-setter in the tram business, now clumsily called "light rail transit". He has set himself a tight timetable and, more remarkably, the objective of financing privately a Bristol-wide service. "Our aim is to have the first route running by 1991 and the whole system completed by the end of the century," he says. The powers needed are contained in a parliamentary Bill which was deposited on Friday. It provides for a first line to be built from Bristol's city centre docks out through the precipitous Avon Gorge to Portishead on the Severn estuary, a route that passes sites fat with development potential.

If all goes well, Advanced Transport for Avon, of which Cottrell is chairman, will go on to build 90 miles of tramways, including an on-street section passing the city's main shops and offices.

ATA's commitment to Thatcherite financing is emphasized by Jack Penrose, the company secretary. "This is a private enterprise project. The first major asset the company will have is the parliamentary Bill. Once we have that we expect to raise money from the increase in land values resulting from the rail transit."

Penrose adds that extensions to the Docklands Light Railway in east London are also being financed in this way. The developers of Canary Wharf have agreed to pay £67 million towards a tunnel line to Bank Underground station, while the Docklands Development Corporation expects to pay for an extension eastwards to Beckton with profits from the sale of sites around the Royal Docks. Norman Crow of Schroder Wagg, ATA's merchant bankers, agrees that fares alone are not enough to pay for the new transit systems.

"Mrs Thatcher's government is leading the world in this and I think Avon leads the way in Britain," he adds. Manchester, with two Bills already before parliament, is another front runner in private

financing. The West Midlands hopes to obtain a grant for a line to link Birmingham and Wolverhampton via the derelict - but potentially valuable - acres of the Black Country Urban Development Corporation. David Mitchell, the Minister of Transport, calls the plans "very promising" even though

they rely substantially on grants to be paid out under Barbara Castle's 1968 Transport Act. As he said at a recent meeting, methods of financing that cost the taxpayer nothing are one highlight of trams, but so is "their impact on the regeneration of inner cities." Away from economically dynamic cities, it is this that gives the promoters their confidence.

Light rail's other asset is its ability to cut through traffic congestion at 50 mph in smooth, air-conditioned comfort. At Bristol, for instance, most of ATA's network will run not on roads but on disused or under-used railways. Yet the ability of trams to run when necessary on streets means that passengers can be taken to the doorsteps in city centres. Trains could never do that.

Terence Bendixson  
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1987



Cottrell: setting the pace



Time was when life's finer things such as Hine Cognac were the preserve of a privileged few.

Today, it is still the true connoisseur that appreciates the mature, mellow flavour of Hine.

The dictionary defines a connoisseur as "one who is an expert judge in matters of taste".

And who are we to argue.





## THE TIMES DIARY

### Keeping it private

Health Secretary John Moore's enthusiasm for private health care is clearly not shared by his mandarins at the Elephant and Castle. Last week as he lay in a private hospital in Wimbledon with pneumonia, news of a new NHS-Bupa deal made a shame-faced entrance via the private health group rather than the DHSS. The department made no mention of it on the day it presented its controversial white paper on primary health care, leaving it to Bupa quietly to announce the £500,000 government-funded scheme under which it will act as consultant to the Trent and West Midlands health authorities in the next four months, contracting out clinical services to private hospitals to help cut waiting lists. Late last week the DHSS excused itself by saying the Bupa plan was not seen as a priority with two white papers, including one on embryo research, coming out within 24 hours of each other. I wonder why.

### Cutting corners

SDP party managers are hunting a mischief-maker out to worsen relations between the party's two camps. Before Sunday's merger negotiations at Cowley Street, a war removed from the main staircase framed press cuttings of a jubilant Rosie Barnes on victory night in Greenwich. After a painstaking search, staff yesterday were relieved to find the pictures hidden behind the reception desk. They had feared that anti-mergerists attending a national committee meeting in the afternoon would interpret their absence as a further snub. The post-election clear-out of portraits of the former leader was one thing, but implying that Owenites are now non-persons is going a bit far.

With Downing Street normally cordoned off, it is now virtually impossible for politically aspirant children to ape the young Harold Wilson and pose outside No 10. But the Museum of Moving Images, due to open on the South Bank next summer, could come to the rescue. Along with mock-ups of Odeons and Hollywood studios I hear of a plan to erect a fake Downing Street set to help demonstrate the changing styles of political television coverage.

### Papal pause

Dubliners who have been without an archbishop since the incumbent died in April are beginning to suspect the Vatican of dragging its heels over a replacement, since Dublin's priests have already made their preference clear. He is Bishop Donald Murray. One of the city's auxiliary bishops. The only problem is that the Pope may view Murray, who has been known to discuss test-tube babies in public, as a dangerous modern. With two other fancied runners, Richard McCullen, Superior General of the Vincentian Order of Rome, and Bishop Dermot Clifford, who has just been given another church job, now seen as outsiders, the Pope may yet wish the search to continue yet longer.

BARRY FANTONI



### Ganging up

Just as you thought good relations had come to an end, it appears that all is fair in love and war — in the SDP at any rate. Shirley Williams, the party president, has invited David Owen and his wife Debbie to her marriage to Harvard professor Richard Neustadt at Farnham on December 19. And yes, David Steel, Bill Rodgers and Roy Jenkins are also on the guest list. If they attend it will be the first time the Gang of Four have met since just after the general election.

### Bets are off

The stock market collapse has afflicted not only the honest affluent. Police in Chicago say Black Monday has been hard on the mob, not because they gambled on the stock market — though they did that — but because of damage to their illegal gambling rackets. Unlike their New York cousins, who prefer more lucrative activities such as drug trafficking, the Chicago gangsters will make a hefty chunk of their income from old-fashioned illicit betting. But since the crash their businessmen customers have not had the spare cash to put on the horses. Some new-poor hoodlums are said to be trading in their Cadillac.

PHS

# Honeymoon and a half

by David Butler

The latest Mori poll on voting intentions gives the Conservatives 50 per cent — 7 per cent up on the June election result. No government since 1950 has fared quite so well in the months after a general election. But will it last?

Early in a parliament, with an election four years away, few people get excited at flutters in the political polls. Yet, since fear of the voter is the most universal of democratic political emotions, worries about the next election are never far from MPs' minds. For a century and more, even when no country-wide test was pending, each by-election has been watched for what it might reveal about the national mood.

Today, with the government entrenched behind a large and loyal majority, the ups and downs of the polls stir limited excitement. We have become to some extent hardened by the increasing volatility of the voter. In the 1950s the movements recorded in by-elections and polls were relatively small, but 20 years ago the pattern changed. Between 1946 and 1966 there were only three short periods (in 1951, 1957 and 1963) when the monthly Gallup poll recorded a 10 per cent gap between Conservative and Labour. Since 1966 there has been only one year within which a gap of that size has not opened or closed. In 1950-56 only one by-election out of 73 produced a change of party; in 1980-86 10 out of 30 yielded an upset.

At the moment Mrs Thatcher's government is riding higher than any of her predecessors. The third party, which at times in the past seven years has threatened to surpass Labour as principal challenger, is in total disarray. Labour has turned inwards in its search for an acceptable image; Neil Kinnock has a low poll rating and at the moment it is hard to see how the party can make itself seem a plausible alternative government to the affluent and ever more middle-class bulk of British citi-

zenry. No by-elections are pending and the government has the comfort of topping 50 per cent in the Gallup poll for the first time since Mrs Thatcher came to power. Labour, too, has recovered to near 40 per cent in Mori while the Alliance's disarray has driven its support down from 23 per cent in June to 14 per cent now.

Upsets in polls and by-elections do not change the world. The record swing against the Labour government in the by-elections of 1967-69 did not prevent Harold Wilson from entering the 1970 campaign as the favourite. The Alliance's remarkable run in the 1984-86 contest was not the prelude to a breakthrough in 1987. But government morale does plummet when it meets electoral adversity. And, if the past is any guide, the Conservatives are due

for bad news from the polls. The future does not necessarily resemble the past, but there has been a regular pattern to the last five full-length parliaments.

Governments have been behind in the polls for most of their time in office. Since 1960 none has been in the lead 12 months after its election victory. All have had a honeymoon — a few months where their popularity has increased or at least stayed level. But disillusion sets in. All governments have then slumped for a year or more.

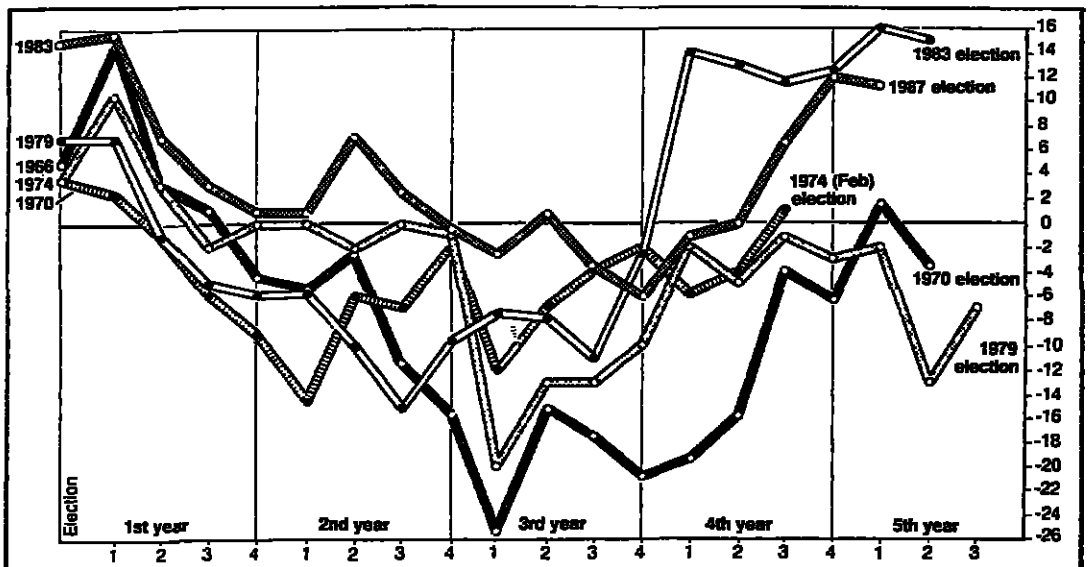
A depressed mid-term plateau has, however, been followed by a marked recovery as the next election approaches. Labour's collapses in 1967 and 1977 were more extreme than anything that befell the Heath or Thatcher administrations, and in 1983-87 the recession

in Tory support was more modest than any previously recorded.

The economy may be booming, but few of us can feel quite as confident as Nigel Lawson says he is that the Stock Exchange slump will not check our growing prosperity. The history of recent years engenders a deep conviction that good times cannot last indefinitely. And the clouds on the horizon for the government are visible enough — in the longer run the decline of North Sea oil, in the shorter run the cumulative grievances that go with expenditure cuts and with the specific problems of the poll tax, where those who are hurt will be more numerous than those who are helped.

The watcher of politics, like the watcher of cricket, can delight in its uncertainty. For that, surely, is the most certain thing about politics.

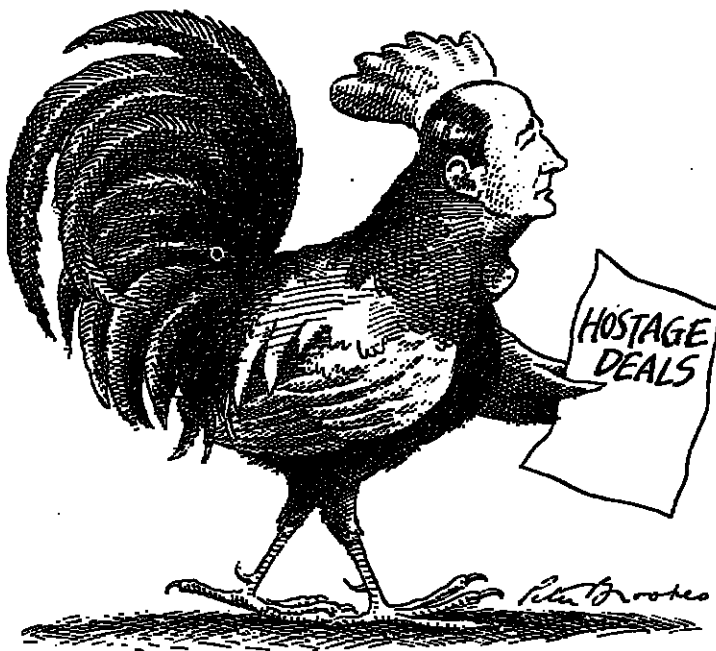
The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.



The course of opinion poll ratings of the last five full-term governments, including Labour's of 1966 and 1974, shows the decline in public support which Mrs Thatcher's administration should now expect

## Philip Jacobson on reaction to the release of terror suspect Gordji

# Chirac's volte-face



## Chicken

Paris. For once, the French press was in broad agreement. The price for last weekend's return of two hostages from Lebanon and the sudden settlement of the "war of the embassies" with Iran was the release of a suspected terrorist. Even the most unwavering of Jacques Chirac's supporters conceded that Wahid Gordji's ticket home was waiting before the self-styled interpreter emerged from his elegant sanctuary on the Avenue d'Iena on Sunday to be questioned by an investigating magistrate. As *Le Quotidien de Paris* acidly observed: "He would hardly have turned up without assurances that he would soon be free to leave France."

Where does that leave the implacable course of French justice which the Prime Minister declared — at the height of last year's bombings in Paris — would "overcome and defeat this evil"?

How does a remarkable *trac* (swap) that clearly hinged on Gordji, suspected by French security of having helped direct that bloody campaign, square with the government's professed determination to reject "any negotiation or compromise with terrorists" for the excellent reason that it encourages them to further outrages?

One provincial newspaper addressed itself unblinkingly to these tricky questions. "Two truly innocent people for a truly guilty man: it hurts deeply," commented *Paris-Normandie*. "A democracy like France has had to give way to the superior power of terrorism."

Regrettable necessity, interests of state, yes — but what a disillusion!

It should be said that the French people have generally approved, with whatever misgivings, of their government's efforts to retrieve the hostages in Beirut. They are realistic and/or cynical enough to accept that that invariably involves reaching an unpalatable accommodation with their captors. On the Paris Metro yesterday morning a businessman was arguing that the French hostages were released in dribs and drabs precisely because the intense emotion generated by the return of these haggard victims greatly increased the pressure on the authorities to get the rest out at any cost.

As Chirac's defenders are quick to point out, the previous Socialist government had given active

consideration to exchanging an Iranian-backed terrorist serving life for the murder of two French policemen for all the French citizens kidnapped in Lebanon. Nor was there any great show of outrage from today's parliamentary opposition after some detailed allegations — never formally denied — that France had paid a ransom of 10 million francs (about £1.6 million) for two hostages set free last June. One that occasion, incidentally, Chirac informed the National Assembly that their release was obtained "without giving away anything which would be contrary to our honour and to our ideals."

In any great affair of state in France, one looks for the political dimension — all the more so with a presidential election now less than six months away. It may be recalled that not long ago the Iranians claimed Chirac's party had asked them to delay the release of French hostages and normalization of relations until after last year's parliamentary election. The thrust of the allegation, hotly denied by Chirac, appeared to be that this would deprive the then Socialist government of campaign lightning.

Well aware that Chirac will now have shot up in the estimation of

ordinary voters (for whom he has hitherto held limited attraction), the Socialists are obliged to try rubbing off some of the shine. Yesterday, while President Mitterrand was preserving his lofty image as "father of the nation" with remarks about the dignity of France having been preserved, the secretary of his party was already mounting the best counter-offensive it could muster.

"We demand to know if justice was subordinated to politics," announced Lionel Jospin, whom one suspects knows when he is on a hiding to nothing. "Was the judge instructed to let Gordji slip away?" asked another Socialist worthy. It was left to Jean-Marie Le Pen, head of the far-right National Front and no admirer of Chirac, to deliver perhaps the most effective broadside. "You don't get anywhere bargaining with blackmailers... there's nothing to stop the Iranians picking up another three, five, 10 or 20 more hostages tomorrow."

Despite the plaudits he is gathering, however, the Prime Minister could still be in for a roughish ride in questioning over the exact circumstances surrounding Gordji's abrupt departure. This self-assured young man was undoubtedly much more than a

humble translator/interpreter at the Paris embassy. By the time police first turned up at his home last June with a warrant to bring him in for interrogation, the security file on Gordji made damning reading.

According to insiders, intensive work by the French DST — responsible for internal intelligence operations — had established direct links between the Iranian and a Lebanese man suspected (and later convicted) of involvement in the bombings which killed 13 people and maimed scores more in Paris during 1986. French security suspected Gordji of organizing the terrorists' logistics chain: he had actually been questioned by the DST once before.

Concern about Gordji's activities was heightened by the knowledge that he was usually present, in his interpreter's capacity, at meetings between French and Iranian officials at a time when diplomatic relations were becoming immensely sensitive. He was also known to be in contact with French political and business circles anxious to improve contacts with the Iranians.

It is significant, in retrospect, to note how Gordji, first of interest to the police merely as a "possible witness" became a *personnage considerable* as the confrontation with Tehran sharpened following the mutual blockade of the embassies. Chirac assured *Le Monde* that it was "quite out of the question" that he should avoid appearing before the investigating magistrate. President Mitterrand was more explicit, declaring that there was "suspicion enough" of Gordji's involvement with terrorism in France to bring him to court for questioning.

What finally passed between the ex-interpreter and the magistrate during their long delayed appointment at the Palais de Justice on Sunday night is not yet clear. Gordji's lawyer had nothing to say: the public prosecutor little more besides his unsurprising announcement that no charges were to be laid. The left-wing newspaper *Liberation* passed judgement with which a good many observers might agree: "If you want to know the real price of the swap, measure it against the idea of the independence of French justice."

## A glaring blank in the copyright bill

The government this week starts to steer one of its most complex measures through Parliament. The Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill — the first big overhaul of the law of copyright for more than 30 years — is intended to create a new legal framework of safeguards for intellectual property.

It starts from an almost impossible position. The aim, to protect creativity without restricting competition, and the 190-page bill therefore seeks to strike a fine balance between the interests of authors, artists, designers, and others who produce, broadcast or disseminate their ideas and the interests of a free market. Creators are to receive adequate recognition for their work; plagiarists and counterfeits are to be deterred with criminal sanctions.

The scope of the bill will range far beyond the arts — music, literature, painting etc — to fashion, typography, computers, satellite transmissions and the design of such things as motor spaces

For the first time artists will own the copyright of their paintings and drawings where these are commissioned, and not the commissioner; photographers will have the same protection. Artists will be able to stipulate how their works are reproduced and to sue over unauthorized changes, even if they have sold the copyright.

But, says the Arts Council, these rights are so hedged about with conditions that an artist will find it hard to assert them. In the case of a change to his work, for example, he must demonstrate that the change is "unjustified" — either unreasonable or "prejudicial" to his reputation.

The bill creates a new property right to cover designs. Under present law industrial designs are protected only when the design is embodied in a drawing. There has been growing concern that the copyright law was increasingly protecting functional designs, so that a spanner or exhaust pipe could get the full 50-year artistic copyright but wallpaper or or-

naments could not. The bill will fix this anomaly and designs generally will have a maximum 15 years' protection. From five years from the date of the design, however, people will be able to apply to the owner for a licence to copy; this cannot be refused, although the terms of the licence can be disputed.

Although the design market will be opened up, City lawyers Clifford Chance predict a wave of litigation over the test — "non-commonplace" — as to which designs qualify for protection.

The bill also brings computer programs for the first time within copyright law, giving them the full status of "literary works". And, for the first time in any copyright legislation, protection will be given to artificial intelligence: the production by computers of works without the clear involvement of a human author, such as weather maps produced from satellites.

However, the bill seems to undermine the rights of copyright owners whose works are stored on

computers because storing, under its provisions, does not amount to copying where the work is only occasionally viewed. This, Clifford Chance believe, could allow unrestricted copying of on-line data base material, such as Prestel.

Many of the measures will generate debate, some outright opposition. But what was expected to be the most controversial item has been omitted — a levy on blank tapes, intended to compensate recording companies for illegal taping. The government's rejection of record industry arguments in favour of consumer rights could be a pragmatic move to ensure the bill gets through.

But, observers say, the government must eventually grapple with the issue of whether home taping should be legalized, so why not now? If the bill goes through with this flagrant omission the copyright law will be left universally flouted and in disrepute.

Frances Gibb  
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Ben Pimlott

# Livingstone's trail-blazers

As Neil Kinnock tartly pointed out, Ken Livingstone's remark that you cannot discipline somebody who came fourth in the NEC elections is incorrect. You can, and it has happened. The question is whether it is likely to be to the advantage of a Labour leader and his more orthodox colleagues to take the risk of doing so.

Since MacDonald was thrown out of the party in 1931 after he had already effectively deserted it, two executive members have been expelled and two have come very close to expulsion. Only one was harmed politically.

The most recent example of an NEC member in serious trouble is that of Kinnock's friend and mentor, Michael Foot, who had the whip withdrawn in the early 1960s because of his defiant stand on nuclear disarmament. Foot avoided expulsion, and his credentials as a former poacher enhanced his authority as a gamekeeper in 1974-9.

Foot's revolt followed closely the example of his predecessor as MP for Ebbw Vale. In 1955, Anurin Bevan castigated the Labour leadership for supporting the Tory government's "first strike" policy on nuclear weapons. The PLP voted to withdraw the whip, and the NEC refrained from expelling him by a margin of only one vote. Instead he had to make a groveling apology which (to the dismay of opponents) he unflinchingly provided. Bevan's most recent biographer, John Campbell, writes of this incident in terms that have a contemporary echo: "The row was not so much over what Bevan stood for... as the unacceptable way he presented his demands."

The "unacceptable presentation of demands" was the immediate cause of the two previous disputes. Each time the culprit was a Wykehamist KC whose literal interpretation of party legality failed to take account of the temper of working-class colleagues.

Early in 1940, the fellow-traveller D.N. Pritt, serving his second term on the NEC, published two tracts seeking to justify the Soviet invasion of Finland. (If today such a stance seems bizarre, it was scarcely less so than official Labour policy, which supported the Finns and thereby risked simultaneous wars with Hitler and Stalin.) In the prevailing climate, Pritt's behaviour was regarded as unpardonable bad taste, and he was expelled. Though never re-admitted, he held his parliamentary seat in 1945 and remained an Independent MP until 1950.

Perhaps the most relevant example of an NEC member undergoing trial and punishment by his peers is that of Sir Stafford Cripps in 1939. Like Livingstone and Bevan, Cripps had long been the *bête rouge* of the party establishment, which was itching to get rid of him. For the same reason, he was the darling of the rank and file. As with Livingstone, his offence was to recommend relations with a party which

respectable opinion regarded as beyond the pale.

The far left had been discussing a "popular front" combining Labour, Liberals and Communists ever since the Comintern put forward the idea in 1935. In 1938 the notion was boosted by Vernon Bartlett's popular front victory in a by-election at Bridgwater. This was the background to Cripps's pre-emptive strike in January, 1939: a leaflet demanding an immediate popular front campaign, circulated to all Labour's affiliated organizations, in defiance of NEC edicts. Cripps was carpeted, ordered to recant and promise good behaviour. When he refused he was expelled.

There followed a period of turmoil in a possible election year which the leadership could have done without. Cripps reacted by launching a movement intended to mobilize opinion in his favour. Michael Foot, an ardent supporter, wrote that "it was legitimate to dream that a political breakthrough in Britain might be possible." The dream, however, was not fulfilled. Bevan joined Cripps's platform, and was expelled, too. When Cripps spoke in the party defence at the conference, his own party had lost interest.

"You have the right to speak," Kinnock told Livingstone last week, "and the right to be wrong." But, he implied, these rights are not open-ended: there are questions of time, place and manner. In 1939 Cripps had insisted, on the contrary, that there should be no limits.

The right which I then asserted, and still assert, is the right of every member of the Party to communicate in any way that he or she wishes, and at any time that he or she considers necessary, any suggestion or argument in favour of changing the policy or tactics of the Party.

The right which the NEC asserted then, and which Neil Kinnock would like to assert now, is the right to say shut up and to mean it. How do you keep order in the ranks when generals display their defiance? As Hugh Dalton, on behalf of the NEC, put it to the 1939 conference, if the executive had not acted as it did "little people would have grumbled that big people were getting off, while little people were being disciplined, and demoralization would have spread. Decent, loyal people would have packed up and got out."

But there can be a difficulty. Like Bevan, Cripps later returned to the party. After the war, he became the Labour government's most powerful home-front minister, seeing off several of his erstwhile critics, and threatening the supremacy of the Prime Minister himself. For a leader seriously wanting to impose his will, the danger is of turning an irritant into a martyr — without quite killing him off.

The author is Professor of Politics and Contemporary History at Birkbeck College, London.

however... Henry Stanhope

# Mountaineering on automatic

People are said to be queuing up to climb Mount Everest, and no doubt growing crosser by the hour ("I'm before you I do believe": "I beg your pardon, but I don't think you are": "Oooh, did you see the way she pushed in?" and "Ohhh, why are they taking so much time?"). It is an ambition that I have never quite understood.

It is not that I have anything against mountains. I was brought up near if not actually among some — though of the friendly green-backed kind, not the one-slip-and-you've-had-it variety. There are, I would aver, few sights more impressive than the Llanberis Pass in Snowdonia in the rain, when the crags are as black and glistening as washed coal.

I have indeed ascended quite a number in my time, though I tend to specialize in those which have a train. Ascent by public transport is not only safer and more comfortable but also, I believe, much more dramatic because of the sheer swiftness of change.

To travel by cable car up the Aiguille du Midi, that great jagged tooth which hangs over Chamonix in the French Alps, is to move from warm sunshine one moment into cloud and deep snow the next — or so it seems. You might well ask who in his right mind would want to, but it is an impressive experience none the less. You can moreover be back in time for tea and writing your postcards to this great aunt or that, while those who are hauling themselves up with ropes, saucupans and other pieces of ironmongery dangling from them have saved themselves only a few francs — and have still got several thousand feet to go.

If no cable car or railway is available, then I am willing to take an easy route on foot. One can for instance reach the top of Ben Nevis without exposing oneself to any undue risks. If such a route had been pioneered up Everest, I should take it. I can quite understand ascending the world's highest mountain to get a bird's eye view of Kathmandu. (Did you know, incidentally, that Kathmandu is one place in the Orient where you can always buy pots of Marmite, because so many mountaineers eat it?)

But if you can see from the summit is more damned moun-

tains, like Annapurna or K2, or — if Sir Edmund Hillary is to be believed — a growing pile of rubbish left by high-altitude litter louts. And in the second place I can think of better ways to get there than by climbing the hardest route imaginable. Yet that is what mountaineers are bent on.

The same applies to other such activities. I can understand for instance why Alcock and Brown flew the Atlantic, Blériot the Channel or Amy Johnson took off for the Antipodes. I am full of admiration for Columbus, Vasco da Gama and Captain Cook; for Franklin trying to probe the North West Passage, for Burton and John Speke going up the Nile or Younghusband crossing the Himalayas to Lhasa — yak-butter tea and all. These were pushing back the frontiers of technology, at worst, discovering more about our planet. I can just understand Hillary, Tensing and Co making their assault on Everest via the south col in '53, to get away from the crowds on Coronation Day.

What I cannot quite understand is why people keep on following in their footsteps, just for fun. Why people want to row across the Atlantic (a form of transport which has little commercial future) or swim the length of Loch Ness six times without stopping, or ride across the Sahara on a camel, is beyond me.

The answer always is, of course, that they want to "discover something about themselves". In my case I know all that there is to be known. I can see no convincing reason why I should seek to walk across the Forth Bridge on my hands or abseil down Big Ben "because it is there". The only thing I would discover is that I'd be downright scared.

Once for a "dare" stepped from window sill to window sill across the whole top floor of a barrack block in West Germany in the dark. What I discovered then was that it was not a feat I would willingly repeat.

Everest will remain unclimbed by me, until at least it has a diesel multiple unit with first-class accommodation and a diner (international and Chinese cuisine) and a kiosk selling postcards. Kodak film, tins of Fanta orange and chocolate ices. I might then be prevailed on to join the queue

JP 34-66 1.50



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

# BETRAYAL BY FRANCE

A little over a year ago, the European Community echoed to mutual congratulations as first EEC interior ministers, then EEC foreign ministers declared their nearly united refusal to deal with terrorists. Within days, their steadfastness had been sorely tried by disclosures that the arch-opponent of terrorism, President Reagan, had concluded clandestine arms deals with the arch-proponent of hostage-taking, Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran. But the Europeans, in public, maintained their united front.

Now, with the release of two French hostages in Beirut and the formal exchange of the detained French consul in Iran for an Iranian "interpreter" wanted for questioning in Paris, the ideal of a Europe united against terrorism has been betrayed. Earlier reports that money or goods were paid for the release of a West German engineer in September and that his compatriot will shortly be released under a similar arrangement were true harbingers of that betrayal.

The all too familiar sequence has been repeated: a kidnapping in Beirut, ransom demands, a government's indignant refusal to bargain, dogged insistence on the part of the kidnappers, rumours of a deal and, finally, the release of a hostage (or two, or three) and the joyous homecoming. There follows a predictable chain of denials: no money changed hands, no concessions were made, no ideals were compromised.

As always, special factors can be cited. In the latest case it will be argued that France's record of international solidarity against Middle East terrorism has been purely self-interested, and that the only reason France joined the European campaign against terrorism last year was that Paris was threatened by an Arab terrorist group at the time. Claims for genuine European unity against terrorism were useful, it can be said, but premature.

The French case has also been complicated by the diplomatic rupture between Paris and Tehran in July over the status of Mr Wahid Gerdji, the interpreter suspected of involvement in last autumn's bombings in the French capital. France's resort to a complete break — rather than the retention of minimal relations chosen in similar circumstances by Britain —

meant that concessions were more likely to be made if links ever needed to be restored.

It now transpires, French denials notwithstanding, that the release of the two hostages in Beirut is just a small part of a far wider deal which has brought freedom also for the French consul in Tehran, the suspect Mr Gerdji and possibly a convicted Lebanese terrorist held in France. It is also likely to lead to the eventual restoration of diplomatic relations between France and Iran.

Whatever special factors there are, however, the weekend's events have provided the clearest demonstration yet of Iran's involvement in Lebanese terrorism, and it is hard to see the French action as anything other than capitulation to terrorists. The long-term benefit of discouraging hostage-taking has been sacrificed for short-term political gains.

The French government has bought back formal relations with Iran. M. Chirac has bought a measure of personal popularity. Three formerly captive Frenchmen are free. So impressive have the rewards of terrorism been, however, that any resurgence of tension between the two countries is likely to place many more Frenchmen at risk.

After the release of the two French hostages, pressure will inevitably increase on Britain to negotiate for the release of the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, Mr Terry Waite. Indeed, the information about Mr Waite, provided by one of the Frenchmen may have been directed by his captors precisely to that end. The anniversary of Mr Waite's disappearance falls in six weeks' time. Pressure on the Government to show an interest in a deal will mount. It must be resisted.

So long as Britain refuses to bargain for so valuable a hostage — however callous such a refusal may seem when others, across the Channel, are rejoicing — the terrorists cannot be confident of success. Their victory will always be limited. If the common European attempt to combat terrorism has for the present been weakened, as it undoubtedly has this weekend, the principle of not giving in to terrorists is still worth upholding, not only in the interests of international security but in our national interests as well. Since Mr Waite, no other Briton has been taken hostage.

# DEMOCRATIC TURKEY

Even before the final results had been declared in Turkey's general election, the six opposition parties were united in their denunciation of Mr Turgut Ozal's electoral reform law. By requiring that those elected to the National Assembly should obtain both at least 20 per cent of the vote at constituency level and 10 per cent at national level it operated to the advantage of Turkey's largest party (his own) and to the detriment of the smaller ones.

Mr Ozal, basking in the glow of victory, has justified his actions. He claims that the failure of the old political parties to muster stable majorities in the late 1970s led to political paralysis and military takeover.

While this is evidently self-serving, the arguments of the opposition are also somewhat specious. All of them had accepted Mr Ozal's electoral gambit in the conviction that they would be able to obtain enough advantage from Mr Ozal's electoral reform law to discredit him at the polls. They failed.

The very fact that this election is discussed in terms of the finer points of electoral law will itself be satisfying to many Turks. Their politics has long been discussed abroad almost exclusively in terms of military coups and the violation of minority rights.

There can be no doubt that human rights violations occurred in the aftermath of the 1980 coup and that pressure from the EEC was instrumental in bringing about an improvement. There is also progress still to be made, including a reversal of Turkey's failure to ratify the EEC declaration on human rights in Strasbourg last week.

But human rights violations by the Turkish military authorities have often been exaggerated. The violence in the streets prior to the

coup, when more than 5,000 people were killed in clashes between left and right, is often ignored. An important human right is not to be shot while standing at a bus stop or maimed by a bomb in a shopping precinct.

The military began to edge the republic back towards civilian rule within three years. When, to their irritation, Mr Ozal's Motherland party beat the two parties which they had sponsored, the military authorities accepted the result. Four years later Turkey held its first genuine democratic elections in seven years. Such a rapid transition from military to civilian rule has few parallels.

Today Mr Ozal sits at the head of a comfortable majority, confident that the Turkish democratic system has put down firm roots. The poor showing of the extreme left and right has bolstered the belief that democracy in Turkey is no longer hostage to fears of internal subversion. The abolition of constitutional restrictions prohibiting the formation of Islamic and communist parties is already on the agenda.

Mr Ozal must grapple with a series of formidable economic difficulties. The inflation rate, now running at around 30 per cent, must be brought under control quickly if the people are not to become disillusioned. Rising foreign debt, now in excess of \$32 billion must be kept down, if fears that Turkey might become a West Asian Argentina are to be dispelled.

But perhaps most important, the benefits of Mr Ozal's economic liberalization programme must be more widely distributed. Mr Ozal is well placed to tackle these problems — and to produce political stability which his successors, including his current opposition, can one day hope to inherit.

# INNER UNCERTAINTIES

The months slide by and still there is no sign of the inner cities initiative promised in June. If the signs were of a government struggling with the details of an agreed policy, the delay would not matter. If the Cabinet had undergone a change of heart and determined there to be no need for new supremos or novel directions, that too would be a clear position.

Instead all the signs are of a government unsure of what it wants to do, who should do it and why. Whatever Mrs Thatcher may have intended by her remarks in the early summer, she has been ill-served by the machinery she subsequently created or, more likely, by her ministers and their preoccupation with precedence and departmental protocols.

The bickering is certainly noisy. Mr David Trippier made a speech last week in which he said there was no question of a single minister being given the lead. What he meant was a minister outside his own department, Environment, which runs the urban programme and the regeneration grants.

At almost the same moment as Trippier was speaking thus, the "friends" of another minister were at work. They were letting it be known that their man would be just right for the new position of inner cities supremo precisely because he was neither from the Environment department nor from the rival Department of Industry.

The head of the latter, Lord Young, is himself engaged in restructuring his department and rethinking regional policy. He is doing so without, it seems, much consultation with Mr Nicholas Ridley, Mr Trippier's boss at Environment who is responsible for development corporations and enterprise zones and other relevant instruments.

Meanwhile Mr Ridley, also without much evident reference to his colleague, is about to

unveil a new generation of "mini" urban development corporations which are supposed to act as magnets for property development and new business. Quite where they fit in the Trade Department's scheme of things is obscure, though it is hard to suppress the suspicion that the timing of Mr Ridley's announcement has something to do with queering Lord Young's pitch.

Just politics, it might be said. But the absence of a single minister with a brief for the inner areas has not gone unnoticed this autumn. In the Government's plans for schooling, housing and local government, there has been no attempt to describe the overall opportunity for the inner areas.

There is a school of thought (close to the Department of Trade and Industry) which dislikes grand themes and, as in the Task Forces for small patches of the inner city, prefers detail. There is much to be said for this approach but, even here, the need for co-ordination between departments is clear. Mrs Thatcher herself spoke in July of knocking heads together.

How else is the Government to gain a coherent view on whether, for example, development corporations, Task Forces and local councils should be empowered to insist that a set proportion of commissioned work should be undertaken by local firms employing local labour?

To miss the initial target (October 1) for a statement of intent on the inner cities may be excused as the result of pressure during a hectic summer. To miss a second (this morning) looks more dubious. To delay the publication of an inner cities White Paper much further begins to betray a deeper incoherence concerning the Prime Minister's first post-election pledge.

# Long-term prospects for the NHS

*From Dr Michael Joy*  
Sir, No parent, unless possibly a Tory politician, could fail to have been moved by the plight of the Bamber family in their efforts to secure urgent surgery on their son, David (report, November 25). The reason given, a shortage of intensive-care unit nurses, is nationwide and getting worse. There is also a shortage of trained nurses which is going to get very much worse.

Reasons not only include falling numbers of young people of suitable age, but also reflect a growing demoralisation of a very dedicated profession fed up with often poor working conditions and a salary which barely permits subsistence in the more affluent parts of the country.

But if the hospital service is collapsing, which it is, as a result of falling recruitment, increased sickness and large numbers of nurses leaving the profession, there is a more sinister threat to the long-term outlook of the whole service.

Under the pretext of the need to make a better career structure in the training grades of certain specialties, the medical profession, led by the British Medical Association and with the connivance of the royal colleges, agreed a package of proposals with the Government which could not be changed or altered in any way. It had to be accepted on a take-it-or-leave-it basis and was unsupported by the data upon which it was based, rendering critical review impossible. It was called "Achieving a Balance".

Those of us working in district hospitals when the report came out last year expressed alarm at the proposals, which appeared to be damaging to the development of specialist medicine at the level of these hospitals. At present, half the population dies of diseases of the circulation, but one quarter of the 215 or so health districts have no physician trained in cardiology. And more such specialists are required to provide for retirement.

In response, the Royal College of Physicians is looking for a 44 per cent reduction in doctors at registrar level (a training grade) and seeks to fill "at least 25 per cent" of the remainder of the posts with temporary overseas graduates hoodwinked into working in the district hospitals in the belief that they will receive "training". No doubt the profession knows what is good for its patients.

The Government has those of us in professional health care and indeed the nation on its issue on the run. Unless the public speaks out, there is a fair chance that it will not be possible to provide a hospital service in some parts of

the country within the foreseeable future.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL JOY,  
Cedar House, Longcross Road,  
Longcross, Surrey.

*From Dr Michael Wilson*  
Sir, The first principles for health (leader, November 26) were recognised long ago by the General Medical Services Committee of the BMA, which negotiates for all general practitioners. Much of what is contained in this week's White Paper on primary health care emanates from firm proposals made to Government over a number of years by this committee.

During the last five or six years our efforts to develop and improve general practice have been balked by Government's unwillingness to consider any significant changes until it produced a Green Paper, then a White Paper. For instance, it was our suggestion that general practice could extend screening for cervical cancer, that GPs could carry out minor surgery, that paediatric surveillance could be undertaken; that more ancillary staff could be employed and should receive training. These were just a few of the many proposals.

It is galling to be told that we do not hold the ideals that are suggested in the White Paper. It was us who put them there and we will certainly be negotiating hard to ensure that the wider range of service for patients can be provided.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL WILSON (Chairman, General Medical Services Committee),  
British Medical Association,  
Tavistock Square, WCI.

*From the Secretary of the British Dental Association*  
Sir, Although the British Dental Association welcomes the administrative detail of the Government proposals for general dental practice, our policy on dental charges is that check-ups should be free and no patient should have to pay more than half the cost of treatment, up to a defined ceiling.

Patients' charges have nearly doubled in real terms since 1979 and if the Government increase the cost of dental treatment any more they risk undoing the considerable improvements in dental health that have taken place in recent years.

In the interests of dental health my association will be pressing to keep the cost of a visit to the dentist as low as possible. We also wish to record our great concern at the proposed changes in legislation in relation to the community dental service.

Yours sincerely,  
NORMAN WHITEHOUSE,  
Secretary,  
British Dental Association,  
64 Wimpole Street, W1.

*From the Senior Director of Dr Barnardo's*  
Sir, Lord Hylton's concerns (November 17) about the worsening conditions of housing and the effects upon families are shared by many of us involved in child care. However, I would like to draw attention to the plight of teenagers and young adults who are unable to find a decent home.

Every year about 7,000 18-year-olds leave the care of local authorities and voluntary organisations. Many of them are without close family support as they become independent. Within a short period of leaving care, at least one third can expect to be included in the "single homeless" statistic.

Housing authorities and landlords could help by reviewing attitudes and policies towards renting accommodation for these

and other single young people.

The Government can help in two ways: by making parliamentary time to introduce their own White Paper proposals (*The Law on Child Care and Family Services*, Cm 62, January, 1987) requiring local authorities to provide continuing support to young people leaving care; and by reviewing the proposals concerning board and lodgings payments for unemployed single young people and the associated implications for housing benefit.

The present proposals, which will impose a maximum payment for bed and breakfast, regardless of local conditions, seem destined to worsen an already unsatisfactory situation.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER SINGLETON,  
Senior Director,  
Dr Barnardo's,  
Tanner's Lane, Barkingside,  
Ilford, Essex.

# Plight of homeless

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ROGER SINGLETON,  
Senior Director,  
Dr Barnardo's,  
Tanner's Lane, Barkingside,  
Ilford, Essex.

# Alamein museum

*From Dr Iain G. Brown*  
Sir, This past week, on the occasion of his centenary, we have been remembering the life and career of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery and consequently the achievement of the Eighth Army in the Western Desert in 1942.

When in Egypt last year I went, for family reasons, to the site of the battle of El Alamein. On arrival at the nondescript desert township, after the drive along the coastal highway from Alexandria, one passes an elegant Hellenic Forces war memorial and a cairn commemorating the South African sacrifice.

Then one comes to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery. This is beautifully laid out, as are all such British military cemeteries. The stones stand in white ranks, smartly as if on parade, and the red soil is a harsh contrast to the lush war cemeteries of Flanders, France or Italy. Yet the unceasing care and devotion with which this beautiful place is maintained is the same. Outside the wall the stony desert stretches away, and not far to the north rolls in the azure sea.

How different from this scene of order and quiet dignity is the Egyptian Government's bizarre and chaotic Alamein Military Museum. The first exhibit one encounters is a rack of shells of various calibres, but all clearly stencilled in German. This is labelled "British ammunition." One passes on to admire a case of 303 Lee Enfield and reads the card, "German rifles." Grotesque waxwork figures represent the combatant nations of both sides,

only Britain is unrepresented, though the Commonwealth and Allied forces are very properly shown in roughly correct uniform.

Finally, there is a sort of shrine of the great commanders. There are hideous portraits of Montgomery and Rommel, both mis-spelt. There is also one greatly puzzling portrait. The officer represented is Alexander, yet the picture is entitled confidently "Oicalac." Now Auchinleck may be a difficult name to spell and to pronounce, but...

It is not too much to ask that an accurate picture of the events of 45 years ago be presented to the world on the very ground where those events happened. Monty's men deserve a better memorial on the field of their great victory.

Yours faithfully,  
IAIN G. BROWN,  
46 Great King Street,  
Edinburgh 3,  
November 21.

*Burdens of age*  
*From Mrs Dora L. Gauss*  
Sir, Your correspondents (November 23, 25) on the subject of incivility in the younger generation, aged 41 and 63 respectively, can hardly claim advanced age. I am in my 80th year and during the past eight months have made six journeys involving changes to and from the Underground in London.

Not once did I have to carry my suitcase up or down steps. My cheerful helpers were all young and included men and women, black and white and a foreign tourist.

Yours faithfully,  
D. L. GAUSS,  
Arolia, 20 Gyllyngvase Terrace,  
Falmouth, Cornwall,  
November 25.

# Lessons after the King's Cross fire

*From the Director General of the British Safety Council*  
Sir, Your columnist, Mr Utley (November 23), offers "a few simple thoughts" on safety and fire experts who, after a fire or similar disaster, search for those who are to blame. If the disasters of recent years were really acts of God, as Mr Utley thinks, rather than acts of omission on the part of man (or more properly, management) one could understand his view. But the fact is that nearly every major accident or fire or ferry disaster of recent years has been preceded by warnings (near hits) which, frankly, have been ignored.

For the record, Flixborough was predictable; the President's report of the US Challenger disaster showed an inability of management to manage; the Herald of Free Enterprise was predictable; Bhopal was predictable; the list goes on and on.

The world's first crisis-management conference in New York last year agreed that top management were programmed for success and not failure — and accidents and disasters are very much failure.

Finally, it is 12 years since we first suggested that London Tubes should be non-smoking zones and, allowing that public opinion was not with us, eight years since we suggested that each platform should have safe exit areas. Again, nothing was done.

Yours sincerely,  
JAMES TYE, Director General,  
British Safety Council,  
National Safety Centre,  
Chancery Lane, W6,  
November 24.

train hurries along at over 100 mph?

My wife, travelling back to Edinburgh from the south recently, had to stand from Peterborough to York, having been unable to book a seat (as the ticket-collector so helpfully suggested).

Surely it should not be beyond the wit of British Rail to know (as airlines now do via computers) when the quota of seats on a particular train is exhausted, or else to supply extra rolling stock?

In any case should not the safety, if not the comfort, of passengers be BR's main concern? Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES HALLIDAY,  
North Esk Lodge,  
Loretto Junior School,  
Musselburgh, Midlothian.

*From Mr George Eykyn*  
Sir, Firefighters at the King's Cross Underground blaze were clearly hampered — and one was killed — because they were having to enter the premises and attack the fire from the top of the station, which one fireman compared to "the top of a chimney". Why does the London Underground not provide the Fire Brigade with a train for each line, like Fire Brigade boats on the Thames, equipped with breathing apparatus and firefighting equipment, which could be rushed to a given station once alerted? In this way firemen could attack the fire earlier, more effectively and with less of the unnecessary hazard to their own lives which we saw on Wednesday.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE EYKYN,  
26 Gaskarth Road, SW12.

*From Mr J. H. Goode*  
Sir, Throughout all the correspondence that I have read regarding the recent King's Cross fire disaster, nowhere has there been any comment about the potential fire risks involved in major departmental stores and shopping precincts, where the law still does not require fire drills to take place.

It is now nearly 10 years since the Woolworth's fire disaster in Manchester, when 10 people lost their lives. How long is it going to be before a major disaster on the scale of the King's Cross or Bradford fires gets the relevant authorities to decide that it should be a legal requirement that regular fire drills take place in major retail or shopping complexes?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN GOODE,  
6 Kendal Walk, Belle Vue Road,  
Kendal Bank, Leeds,  
West Yorkshire,  
November 23.

*From Mr C. F. A. T. Halliday*  
Sir, In the wake of the King's Cross fire there is rightly a lot of talk about safety in stations and on trains. It can hardly be said to be safe, surely, for an InterCity 125 train to have as many as 30 people standing in the aisles while the

*From Mrs Armored J. Carlyon*  
Sir, In reply to Dr Paul Ashbee's question (November 18) about the proposed hotel at Avebury, to be discussed by Kennet County Council, "Where else could such a situation have arisen?", the answer is "Cornwall" — a land of stone circles, cromlechs, Celtic crosses and of great landscape beauty.

In the city of Truro almost every green field is under threat, including the idyllic Nansavall, of Tristan and Iselt fame, and there is an unwelcome out-of-town shopping complex planned on Duchy land.

In Cornwall we have formed an association called Casp (Cornish Alternative to the Structure Plan). In this plan the Cornwall County Council envisages some 40,000 houses being built within the next 10-15 years to satisfy the increased numbers coming into the county.

Perhaps I might suggest Dr Ashbee forms Kad — Kennet Against Developers.

Yours faithfully,  
ARMORED J. CARLYON  
(Deputy Mayor of Truro),  
3 Strangways Villas,  
Truro, Cornwall,  
November 19.

*Boxing clever*  
*From Mrs John Steel*  
Sir, Having read (November 26) that the Government intend to allow free competition for public telephones, may I recommend the splendidly practical Parisian arrangement which serves to cut down vandalism while being economical and visually appealing.

At their bus stops they have integrated telephone kiosks into bus shelters. By the use of clear glass two thirds of a rectangular floor plan becomes the shelter, while the remaining third is partitioned off with its own door to make a telephone booth with a measure of privacy. However, it is in full view of the bus queue, whose presence presumably serves to deter would-be vandals while the bus shelter doubles as an ante-room for those waiting for some protracted telephone conversation to end.

Yours faithfully,  
ELIANE STEEL,  
17 Sanicroft Street, SE11.

# Stone Age site

*From Mrs Armored J. Carlyon*  
Sir, In reply to Dr Paul Ashbee's question (November 18) about the proposed hotel at Avebury, to be discussed by Kennet County Council, "Where else could such a situation have arisen?", the answer is "Cornwall" — a land of stone circles, cromlechs, Celtic crosses and of great landscape beauty.

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Yours faithfully,  
ARMORED J. CARLYON  
(Deputy Mayor of Truro),  
3 Strangways Villas,  
Truro, Cornwall,  
November 19.

# Hamlet on the New York stage

*MODERN INTERPRETATIONS*  
FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT

The arrival of Mr. Leslie Howard's long-awaited production of *Hamlet* at the Imperial Theatre gave New York its first opportunity in several years to compare two modern interpretations of Shakespeare's troubled Dane. The production in which Mr. John Gielgud appears is still at the Empire. Mr. Howard's production, like its predecessor, is staged in the best of modern styles and so far as visible splendour is concerned is generally admitted to be superior. In the playing of some of the minor parts it stands the inevitable comparison well. Miss Pamela Stanley's Ophelia, for instance, being notably better than that of Miss Lillian Gish in the Gielgud version. But it is impossible for even Mr. Howard's most loyal friends to find grounds for favourable comparison of his art with that of Mr. Gielgud. The playing of the two has, as was inevitable, certain superficial similarities. Both interpretations are modern in the sense that the playing is quiet and the thought, rather than the action, of the lines is stressed. But where Mr. Gielgud, rubbing his own personality against the familiar lines, brought sparks of new and often vivid meaning, Mr. Howard seems content with mere euphony.

Mr. Howard's *Hamlet* is, of course, graceful, and in the accustomed black, topped by a blond wig, he is an appealing figure against the massive, architectural set designed by Mr. Stewart Chaney. His voice has a gentleman's cultivation, and its even flow is troubled by few storms of feeling. Mr. Gielgud's interpretation stresses the craftiness of *Hamlet*'s simulated madness, but Mr. Howard goes one better or, as it turns out, one worse, his *Hamlet* remaining at all times entirely sane and logical, so that one wonders how the theory that he was mad ever got about in Elsinore. But the major disappointment was in Mr. Howard's failure to bring to the playing of those quieter passages in which it was expected he would be at his best the new inflections, reflecting new realizations of the character, which are obviously what the modern style of acting has to bring to Shakespeare. Mr. Gielgud's playing of the part is full of such flashes — a new emphasis in the soliloquy or in the nostalgic speech over Yorick's skull cut through the familiar music of the lines and brought the listener up standing to reconsider the whole character. Mr. Howard has, a dozen times more for the slight dialogue of contemporary drama than he succeeds in doing for Shakespeare's. It seems possible on the opening night that physical weariness brought on by the strain of preparing the play in the course of the tour for his New York opening might have had something to do with the actor's graceful inadequacy. But it is probable that the fault goes deeper: that Mr. Howard, in contrast with Mr. Gielgud, has formed for himself no sustained view of *Hamlet*'s character and that it is on this rather fundamental oversight that he stumbles.

# Contra-band

*From Mrs C. Gordon*  
Sir, Sir Terence Conran's Mr Bibendum (photograph, November 27) may be high fashion, but should he be smoking a cigar with the band on?

Yours faithfully,  
C. GORDON,  
14 Ashley Court,  
New Milton, Hampshire,  
November 28.











## THE ARTS

## TELEVISION

First the good news: the last programme in the series about surgery, *The Courage to Fail* (BBC2), showed that kidney stones can now be removed by ultrasound and that an appendix can be extracted through a tiny hole in the skin. Now the bad news: the BBC still have that stomach-churning *Your Life In Their Hands* film showing an only too surgical operation to remove kidney stones, and certainly still have the courage to assault their viewers with it before allowing us to enjoy the pleasant sight of a doctor playing a sort of video game which bloodlessly bombards the stones into extinction.

What is worse, photographic technology is more than a match for surgical development. If a surgical foot can get through a tiny hole so too can some fiendish probe which ensures that a ringside view of the appendix getting its come-appearance can be beamed into our homes.

What is regarded as offensive on television has always been curious. Some now rant against the appearance of a stretch of rubber on the BBC even though it is encased in a packet and comes awash with goey romantic sentiment, but the endless voyeuristic obsession with the gory throbbing insides of a severed human is regarded as merely raising consciousness.

Motive and circumstance is all, you might say, excusing the ghastly sight, condemning the apparently innocuous but despite the theme of the programme — that surgeons should have the courage to fail — it was clear from its fascinating survey of the history of heart transplants that the circumstance of some of these surgical spectacles was a fashionable opportunism and moral irresponsibility which amounted almost to institutional violence.

Kenny Everett used to have the courage to fail and outrage. I trust that his andy, uncontrived return in *The Kenny Everett Television Show* (BBC1) merely reflects his own creeping coddliness, not BBC restraint.

Andrew Hislop

## GALLERIES

**Fernand Léger: The Later Years**  
Whitechapel Art Gallery

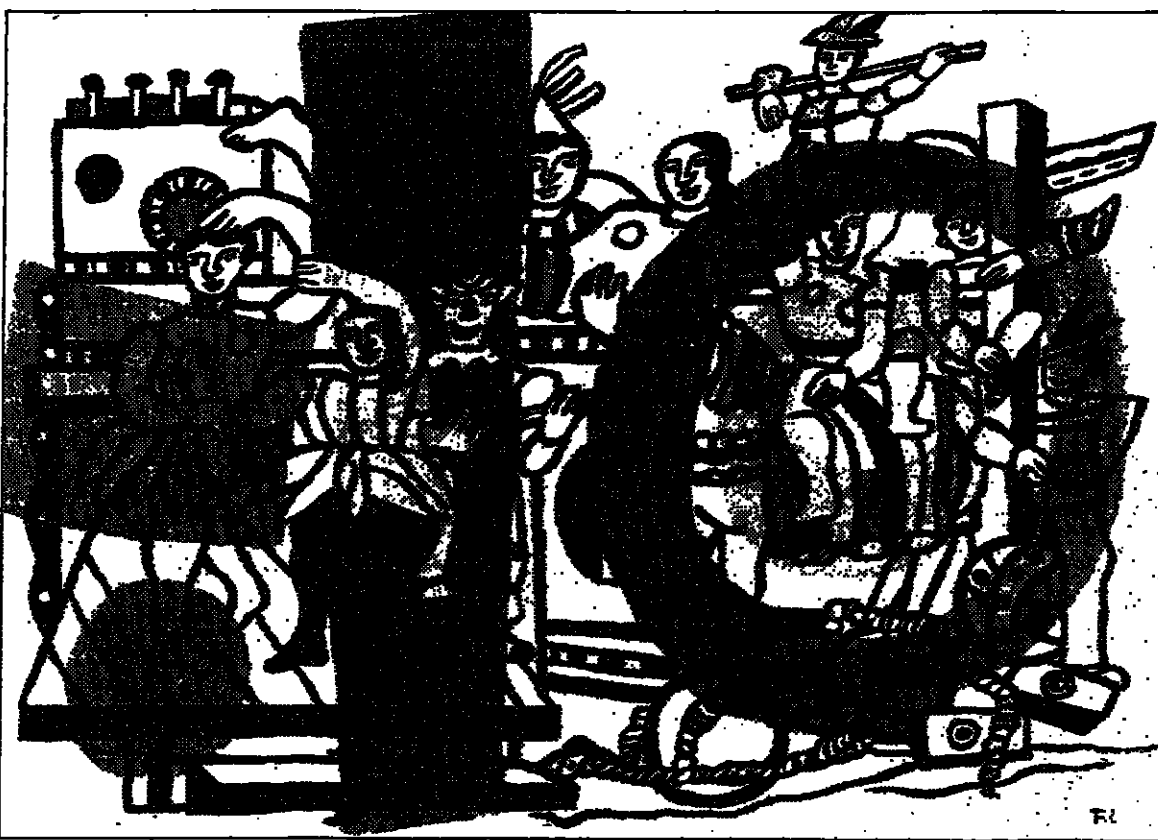
**Julie Manet: Her Family and Friends**  
Jane Roberts Fine Art

**Private View**  
J.P.L. Fine Arts

The first thought which strikes one, entering the Whitechapel Art Gallery's major winter show Fernand Léger: The Later Years (until February 21), is: how very, very French. But it is not easy to explain why.

The "later years" in question are from the early Thirties until the artist's death in 1955. Léger's political attitudes were broadly left-wing and populist, and around the beginning of the Thirties he seems to have become increasingly conscious that the abstraction he had favoured during his Cubist phase was somewhat elitist. This was also the time when the Soviet government turned against the Russian avant garde of the post-Revolutionary years, and artists like Malevich had to return to figuration, take refuge in industrial design, or remain silent. But Léger's move towards the bold, simple shapes, particularly human figures, of his later work seems to have been entirely voluntary.

All the same, there can certainly be more than one opinion about the wisdom of his choice. Many feel that not only did he return to figuration, but at the same time he declined into mere decoration. Certainly the style of such late paintings of this period as "Adam et Eve" and "Les Deux Soeurs", with their monumental tubular figures, seems best adapted to murals in some giant factory canteen or industrial pavilion. Indeed, Léger was much involved in the decoration of the Paris International Exhibition of 1937, working on the Education and Agriculture Pavilions and the Palace of Discovery, among others. And that exhibition really crystallized French taste until the end of the Fifties.



Léger's Grande Parade: "The impression that we have somehow wandered into a René Clair movie is intense"

Hence, no doubt, the impression of overwhelming Frenchness. It might be said that Léger formed this particular taste as much as he was formed by it, and it was quite probably he who originated the device, beloved of French advertising artists ever since, of producing a composition of strong lines in black on a white ground, then arbitrarily applying patches of simple, often primary, colours to it (as in "Les Belles Cyclistes" of 1944). But for all that, there is a definite lowering of artistic tension as we move to such postwar paintings as "Les Loisirs, Hommage à Louis David", with its cute Edwardian *partie de campagne*, or the various (and equally varied) "Grande Parade" paintings. The impression that we have somehow wandered into a René Clair movie is intense, even with the numerous "Constructeurs" pictures of 1950-51, where the workmen decoratively arranged on scaffolding in their caps and muffers and striped vests are straight out of *Sous Les Toits de Paris* or *Le Quatorze Juillet*.

Quintessentially French, but in lesser and certainly different ways, are two shows at West End galleries. It has been the charming idea of Jane Roberts, for the first show in her new gallery at 180 New Bond Street, to reconstruct for us the world of Julie Manet, daughter of Berthe Morisot, niece of Edouard Manet, and something of a painter in her own right.

The principal reason for having such a show at this time is to provide background for the publication of Julie Manet's greater claim to fame: her diary kept between the years of 1893 and 1899, which appears co-translated and edited by Jane Roberts as *Growing Up with the Impressionists* (Society's £19.95).

After the death of her father in 1892 and her mother in 1895, Julie Manet lived with cousins, one of whom, Paule Gobillard, proves from the show to be a really accomplished painter in the Impressionist tradition.

Some of the most interesting pictures in the show are the work of lesser figures who crop up in the diaries,

such as Jacques-Emile Blanche and Jean-François Raffaelli, who just go to illustrate the potency of the Impressionist tradition well into the twentieth century.

Further evidence of this is to be found in Private View, a selection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings and watercolours from the stock of J.P.L. Fine Arts, which is on show until January 29. There are certainly big enough names included (Pissarro and Degas, Bonnard and Vuillard, for instance), but again it is the lesser figures who impress. One could hardly ask for a better Pointillist landscape than Henri-Edmond Cross's "Les petites montagnes Mauresques" of 1909, but even the much earlier, much less famous Albert Dubois-Pillet's "Falaises à Yport" (c.1888) is strangely memorable, and there are wonderful drawings by Théo Van Rysselberghe.

John Russell Taylor

## Contrasts and a test of stamina

## CONCERTS

**LS/Rattle**  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Another marathon from Simon Rattle and the London Sinfonietta; though it need not have been, for the concert included two works whose musical qualities seemed at odds with the rest of the evening.

Hindemith's *Kammermusik III*, for cello and 10 instruments, superbly played by Christopher Mow, Kampen and his colleagues, might have sounded differently in 1925, but today seems like the results of a determined attempt to forge a new musical vernacular rather than a reflection of any inspirational sparks.

Steve Reich's *Variations for Winds, Strings and Keyboards*, though a degree or two less stylizing than anything by Glass, stirs no emotions, but tests severely the physical stamina of the flautists and oboists, who here rose to the

challenge of the fast obbligatos magnificently.

The audience loved the piece, but surely Carl Ruggles's *Angels* of 1939 for muted brass, the very antithesis of Reich's blandness, should have touched sensibilities more deeply with its ivy-like complexities and its concentration of manner. That same concentration pervades the two song-cycles by Ravel, the *Trois Poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé* and *Shéhérazade*, which Elise Ross sang, deputising for Cynthia Buchanan. Strangely, Ross seemed more at home pitting her voice against the full orchestra of the latter work than in the refined chamber textures of the *Mallarmé* the subtleties and intensity she brought to *Shéhérazade* were magical.

Finally, there was Stravinsky's *Pulcinella*, and all of it, not just the ubiquitous Suite. Ross was joined by Damon Evans and David Thomas for the vocal numbers, and the whole, which works far better than the parts, was done with witty and genuine affection.

Stephen Pettitt

**Demidenko**  
Wigmore Hall

Nikolai Demidenko is an extraordinary pianist. The dynamic range of his playing is vast, as is his repertoire of tone-colours. His technique is brilliant, though he is willing to risk and even to play wrong notes in the cause of the moment. He was a controversial interpreter of Schubert's late B-flat Major Sonata, D960, the work that began his recital. Surely, the first movement can never have been played quite as slowly. There were two principal consequent effects upon the music. Firstly, the emotions in Schubert's rich and intense harmonic progressions were exaggerated, which was good. Secondly, the flow of Schubert's line was severely compromised, which was bad.

After such breadth, the true slow movement, though also on the slow side, seemed to pass relatively quickly. Here Demidenko's evident intention, achieved through his fine control of veiled tone, was to lull the ear into a contemplatively restful state before he attacked the Scherzo. This he did with almost vicious force.

Nothing else that followed shocked quite as much, even though, one cannot apart, it was all Schubert. The four Impromptus D899, though treated with similar extremity, held their own with eloquence, while the extraordinary "Wanderer" Fantasy in any case music that famously looks towards Liszt and hence towards the school of which Demidenko is such a thrilling, well suited exponent.

S.P.

## Love, duels and duets

## DANCE

**Scottish Ballet**  
Studio Theatre

The third and last programme in the inaugural season of Scottish Ballet's new Studio Theatre contained three new works and a revival of Robert North's whimsical *The Water's Edge*, presumably for the sake of its Jethro Tull score.

The most substantial piece is by one of the company's dancers, Lloyd Embleton. *For You Were Mine* is set to the Sibelius Violin Concerto, arranged for violin and piano. The action takes place in the context of a duel, realistically

acted by men in dark formal suits. They are accompanied by three couples, all dressed in white, who seem to represent the love affair that has led to the quarrel.

Impassioned multiple duets accompany the first movement, after which the challenger fires and misses. The second movement is a more apprehensive duet for Elaine McDonald and Robert Hampton; then the challenged fires into the air and there is a somewhat contrived reconciliation.

The effect is a little disconcerting (imagine an imitation of *Jardin aux lilas* the drama and dancing divided into separate categories); but it is also ambitious, assured and interesting.

Jane Jewel, another of the dancers, set some lively dances to songs of Reynaldo Hahn but spoiled them with a heavy overlay of camp carryings on. Paulo Lopes, a former member of the company, was solemn by contrast in a dance to Rachmaninov's preludes about a girl left alone when her sisters form liaisons with a man and another woman.

Both works were very well performed, especially by Catherine Evers as the odd one out in each, as ebullient in one as she is sad in the other. Musical performances all evening are excellent, especially from Geoffrey Allan and Alan Watt as the violin and baritone soloists.

John Percival

## Touching greatness

## NEW MUSIC



Daring: Brian Ferneyhough

**Paul Griffiths at the Huddersfield festival finds just one composer still able to surprise**

It sounds like a paradox, the fact that so much music is being written today in so many styles, by composers of undoubted talent, while the edges of greatness are touched only so very rarely. But really the phenomena are inseparable: the cultural disintegration that expresses itself in diversity also militates against new excellence. There is no way forward in the maze.

In Huddersfield over the last ten days, that labyrinth of contemporary music has been explored with astonishing thoroughness, thanks to the enthusiasm, sanity and sheer application of Richard Steinitz in persuading composers and performers to come from California, Amsterdam and Paris to what can hardly seem the most alluring venue. But this festival will surely be remembered for the music of one composer who is in dark days carrying the torch forward: Brian Ferneyhough.

Last week I suggested that Ferneyhough is the last of the absurdists; it is no contradiction to say that he is also one of the last of the Romantics (another would be Birtwistle), convinced that music can still be made in new ways. After Saturday's astonishing performance by the Asko and Nieuw ensembles of his *Carceri d'invenzione* cycle, one can only agree, not without pleasure and relief, that indeed it can.

Earlier performances in this country (I had heard three of the seven pieces) had brought the news that Ferneyhough had achieved a new richness in terms both of the variety of experience compressed into each work and of the historical models which are assailed with such well-deserved confidence. Not only does the

only vocal work in the cycle, the *Etudes transcendentales* for soprano, flute, oboe, cello and harpsichord, stand clearly in the line of *Le Marteau sans maître* and *Pierrot lunaire*, but the solo violin piece *Intermedio alla ciaccona* is no less daringly a combative engagement with Bach. Yet there is nothing at all neo-classical here: one feels a contact with Bach's mind rather than with his practice; nobody could be freer than Ferneyhough from the wearied, wearying regurgitations of this retro age, so depressingly exemplified the next day when Richard Buckley conducted the BBC Symphony Orchestra in John Adams's *Harmonielehre* and the chaste Stravinsky-Sibelius marriage of Stephen Albert's *Rain Music*.

Huddersfield did well, and excited some welcome controversy in setting Ferneyhough against such popular opposites, though his is music bright enough to dazzle without a foil. He is, of course,

the same composer he was in the Seventies, operating always at the limits of virtuosity, his own and that of his performers. But now those limits are investigated in so many different ways, providing the means to create in the *Carceri* a world as bewildering yet persuasive as that of the Piranesi engravings that provided both title and stimulus. Where Ferneyhough's earlier music generally started then went on startling in much the same way, each of the seven pieces in the new cycle keeps spinning off new reasons for awe as it proceeds along its particular tightrope. Together they make a concert of quite extraordinary energy.

First a solo piccolo furiously brushes a whisker at the top boundaries of attainable pitch. Then an ensemble explodes from the wild initial binding of high piccolo and low trombone to lapse into a memorable close for flute, viola and percussion (a first intimation of *Le Marteau*). After this comes the violin solo, vividly projected here by Irvine Arditi, and a flute concerto of tremendous excitement (Kees Verheul was soloist). There are then the *Etudes*, whose edginess was enhanced by the poise of a superb performance from the Nieuw Ensemble. The cycle ends with a third orchestral invention, this time for a frenzied Varesian ensemble of wind and percussion, out of which a solo bass flute emerges for the concluding *Mnemosyne*.

Harrie Starreveld thus ended the evening as he had begun it, as excellent in multicoloured lassitude as in the opening spring. Denis Cohen conducted the formidable Asko Ensemble in the orchestral pieces, and again the next morning in a concert where even Elliott Carter was overshadowed by the memory of Ferneyhough's intense, compelling visions.

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## The ghost of Marley?

## REGGAE

**Alpha Blondy**  
Town & Country

It was encore time before Alpha Blondy finally got around to taking off his pull-over and shirt to reveal a Ziggy Marley T-shirt emblazoned with the slogan "Hey World!". This seemed an entirely appropriate greeting coming from a 34-year-old "Judeo-Islamic" reggae performer from the Ivory Coast, who during the course of the evening had regaled the audience with songs in his native Mandinga and Dioula tongues, spiced now and then

with touches of Hebrew and Spanish: a singer who had started the show with an a cappella version of the 23rd Psalm sung in French, and was ending the performance with a jaunty English language number called "I Love Paris" — not the familiar one of that title.

This exotic combination although reflecting, in part, Blondy's background as an American-educated, Jamaican-recorded, French resident did not indicate the remarkably conventional and solid foundations of excellence on which his music was based. For while it is supposedly the basis of all reggae artists to suffer comparison to Bob Marley, Blondy has not gone out of his way to avoid such

stereotyping and indeed has recorded two of his four albums with the remnants of Marley's former backing group, the Wailers.

Blondy's own 12-piece band, the Solar System, captured the same dependable expansiveness and supremely inclusive attack in their reworking of such recorded material as "Politique" and "Bloodshed In Africa" from the *Jérusalem* album. The singer, meanwhile, led the way, delivering his linguistic cocktails in a pleasant tenor with a pleasing style of pulsing that was never more similar to that of Marley's than during "Kalachnikov Love".

David Sinclair



## FASHION by Liz Smith

## A fur, fur better thing to wear

Fakes are now the best of the beastie buys — the fun fur is roaring back into favour. Leopard and tiger prints are padding across flirty skirts as well as warm, woolly coats



**S**tirrings deep in the fashion jungle signal that the fashionable are on safari. In their current obsession with glamour, the stylish are surrendering to the ultimate luxury, the tactile pleasure of silky pelt and supple skin, undervalued species all of them, since the fur to luxuriate in today is, deliberately, deliciously faux.

Fake fur has certainly climbed in status since designers such as Saint Laurent or Valentino, New Yorkers Beane or Blass responded to the call of the wild and started tailoring simulated fur into desirable little blazers, coats and short skirts. Top couturiers generally are not too sensitive to the nuances between real and fake. Most of them would happily apply their talent to stitching genuine sable or mink into a floor-length trenchcoat or a modest wrap, but it is the element of fantasy in the faux that appeals; the raciness of a whip-thin mini in fake leopard; the seduction of a sweater in cashmere printed to look like wild cat; the fun in the idea of a glinting, narrow sheath worked entirely in panther-patterned sequins.

So many prints look prissy and unchic. Far more gutsy and provocative are the elemental spots of a leopard or tiger stripes. Nature's own designs seldom look anything but smart, and camouflage shades of buttery chamais with brown, camel and grey all mate perfectly with black.

The major department stores are as good a stalking ground for this stylish safari as the upmarket London shops such as Browns, Whistles, Regine, A La Mode. Rugged deep-pile coats realistically simulate any fur from dense beaver, which is particularly fashionable this year, to the more flashy glamour of a snow leopard. Or you might choose to sink stylishly inside the more understated luxury of a lining in fake fur in a plain cloth coat.

Astrakhan specialists in fake fur, simulate any animal pelt and create mutations nature never even thought of. Their man-made products have improved significantly over the years and they create fine textured, sleek or deep-pile

fakes that designers such as Anne Tyrrell tailor into elegant styles each season. This year the fashionable short, swing jacket and the longer, full-skirted greatcoat are all there in simulated mink or leopard.

The fashion jungle is indeed the breeding ground for some rather offbeat species. Jean-Paul Gaultier uses fake leopard simply as a special effect, moulding it into a curvy jacket, adding stretchy black

stretchy black cinched waistband on a full skirt, or to taper a mini more tautly into the thigh. Caroline Charles uses leopard pattern in different scales of spot for tight, short skirts, a high-buttoned, full-skirted coat, and three-quarter, collarless jacket.

Even her glossy, satin drop-waisted dress that ends in a couple of flirty little tiers just above the knee comes in a thoroughly fake, stylized animal print in brown and black. Arabella Pollen generously swatches a dark wool coat in a fake beaver shawl collar and adds deep cuffs to match.

In Selfridges, simulated beaver, mink, leopard coats and jackets by Astrakhan can be found up on the third floor, priced from £130 for a leopard coat, up to £199 for a tiger jacket. Down on the second floor, Designer Room prices go up for Lutz Teutloff fake fur coats priced around £330.

A fake tiger jacket from Cofana in the suit department costs £219. Toques, berets, muffs, bags in faux ocelot and astrakhan start at around

£12.95, and go up to £39.95 for a passementerie-braided muff or drawstring bag, to fall in with the cosack-inspired coats and jackets around this season. In Fenwick's hat department, an astrakhan cap costs £16.95 and in their coat department, a fake leopard jacket is priced at £129 and its matching toque is £23.95.

There are always two sides to the story. The caring and committed members of Lynx, who crusade against the killing of animals simply to provide a warm coat for humans, showed not one fake fur in the Alternative Fur Coat show which they staged in London's Limehouse Club last week.

Designers like the Animal-gamated Talent team, Ally Capellino and Katharine Hammett, demonstrated their alternative options of cashmere, camel hair, velvet, even sheer chiffon, to wrap oneself inside for glamour. Their "Roar of Disapproval", as the event was titled, extends even to the simulation of animal markings in fashion, which seems to me to be getting their principles in a twist.



Above: Leopard-print short skirt, £119; leopard fake fur coat, tossed over one arm, £495; both Caroline Charles at Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1. Camel crew-neck sweater, £68, N Peal, Burlington Arcade, W1. Leopard-print collar worn twisted as a cowl, £59.95, Fred Bare at Janet Fitch, 6 Percy Street, W1. Painted bangles, £8.95, Fenwick's, Bond St, W1; belt, £31.95, Stephen Collins from Selfridges.

Above left: Full-skirted swing coat in dark leopard fake fur, £220, Harrods. Honey cashmere sweater with detachable collar, £230, N Peal.

Right: Swing-back belted jacket in fake leopard, £175; matching skirt, £80.50, Kianivorous at Hyper Hyper, 26-40 Kensington High Street, W8. Leopard-print beret with bow, £20; matching zippered muff, £32.50, Fred Bare from Janet Fitch, 6 Percy Street, W1. Black suede court shoes, £110, Johnny Moke, 369 Kings Road, SW10. Opaque tights, £1.75, Pretty Polly from major department stores.

Hair and make-up by Wendy Sudd. Photographs by ANTHONY CRICKMAY.

## PEOPLE

## Replacement value

Practicality is not necessarily a priority when one is spending £2,500 on a pair of earrings. But Cass MacClancy is quick to point out the convenience of interchangeable gems to her jet set clients. The initial investment buys a glamorous pair of double-heart earrings studded with ruby, emerald, sapphire and diamonds with a choice of onyx or mother-of-pearl discs that you snap in as "drops" between the lower hearts. "It's fun to wear one black and one pearl," she says. Additional multi-colour crystal discs extend the repertoire of the earrings even further.

Having trained at Sir John Cass College and worked for both Harry Winston and Bulgari (for whom she hosted parties in London), MacClancy set herself up in the jewellery business two



Sparkling: Cass MacClancy

years ago with a showcase in the St James's Club and a design studio in Belgravia. After setting up production in Italy, she has now moved it back to this country. "The workmanship is of a parallel high standard here, and the

prices more competitive," she says. Her jewellery is available from 81a Elizabeth Street, SW1 (01-730 7947) by appointment only.

● Zandra Rhodes' celebrated chiffon dresses are collectors' pieces, dripping crystal drops and intricately worked with pearls, sequins and bugle beads. Using the same beautifully made lead-crystal beads, rhinestones and heavy glass-based mock pearls by Swarovski, the leading Austrian bead and crystal company, she has created her first collection of jewellery. The Swarovski Designer Collection by Zandra Rhodes is priced from £30 for a pair of earrings, up to £300 for an elaborate lacemate bead necklace. The collection will be available from major department stores in the spring.

## Greek golds

For frankincense and myrrh this Christmas go to Jernyn Street to Czech & Speke's emporium for scented bathroom luxuries and burning sticks. For offerings of gold, look at the museum-quality pieces freshly minted by the Midas of modern jewellery, Ilias Lalounis.

It may have something to do with the fact that his studio is at the foot of the Acropolis, but Lalounis's jewellery has the aura of something unearthed in an archaeological dig and burnished back to its original lustre. Working in 22 carat gold and semi-precious stones, using techniques of hammering, chasing and casting little changed in 5,000 years, Lalounis digs deep into earlier civilizations for inspira-



Glittering: Dimitra Lalounis

ation. Neolithic arrowheads, a diadem believed to have been worn by Helen of Troy, whorls and motifs taken from Tudor and Jacobean gauntlets and breastplates in portraits by Holbein and Nicholas Hilliard, details of Byzantine

architecture — all have provided him with ideas.

In London last week for the launch of his newest collection, Lalounis said that there are no political or cultural frontiers in art: "It is important to revive human memories." He never aims to make an exact reproduction but, keeping alive centuries-old crafts, simply recreates forms and tiny details.

It was inevitable that Lalounis would join his family's jewellery business, just as Katherina and Dimitra, two of his four daughters, work alongside their father in his Athens workshops, and double as dazzling models for the jewellery that now sells in the 23 Lalounis shops around the world.

In the photograph, Dimitra wears a 22 carat gold necklace and earrings inspired by fifth century BC neolithic arrowheads, from the Golden Memories of the Holy Land collection at the Ilias Lalounis Gallery, 174 New Bond Street, London W1.

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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Ward White in £49m sale of properties

Ward White, the retail group, has sold the property interests of LCP Holdings for £49 million, in cash, to a property consortium. The portfolio of properties — in the West Midlands, near Cambridge and at Swindon — made pretax profits of £3.77 million in the 10 months to the end of last January. The company has retained a valuable freehold site in Bristol.

The sale virtually completes the disposal of LCP subsidiaries. Proceeds will be used to reduce debt and to fund the expansion of core retailing activities, the company said. Gearing will fall to 18 per cent.

## London Secs boosts figures

London Securities, the property and investment group, yesterday reported a rise in pretax profits from £511,000 to £637,000 for the six months to September 30. It received profits on its investments of £488,000. The company is looking to expand, after abandoning plans in October to acquire the Estates Property Investment Company.

## Kynoch lifts profits

G&G Kynoch, the Scottish cloth manufacturer, made a pretax profit of £234,359 in the year to the end of August, against £175,046 the previous year. Turnover was marginally lower, at £4.4 million. The company said the current year had started encouragingly, despite worldwide increases in the wool price. The total dividend was raised to 4.5p (3p).

## Maxiprint cuts loss

Maxiprint, the USM-quoted manufacturer of colour photograph enlargement systems, made a reduced loss before tax of £67,747 in the year to the end of May, against a previous loss of £131,155. Turnover almost doubled, to £177,479, and development expenditure more than doubled, to £96,000.

The company said that the significant investment in development had been a burden. But a new product, the Maxiprint Ten Eight — a fully automatic daylight enlarger selling for less than £9,000 — has just been released, and Maxiprint is confident that bringing the Ten Eight into production during the first quarter of 1988 will lead to rapidly improving financial results.

## SIT declares share split

Scottish Investment Trust yesterday announced a two-for-one share split and a 0.5p increase in the final dividend to 4.75p. The company declared a rise in pretax revenue for the year to October 31 from £8.59 million to £9.09 million. Earnings per share rose from 6.55p to 7.35p and net asset value per ordinary share stood at 462.1p.

## Circaprint up to £1.2m

Circaprint Holdings, the manufacturer of printed circuit boards, raised profits before tax from £627,000 to £1.2 million last year. Turnover went up from £8.5 million to £11.7 million. The final dividend goes up from 1.2p a share to 1.9p. The company says that while the market is improving, there is still over-capacity in some areas.

## Third oil licence

A third oil and gas prospecting licence has been granted in Co Antrim, it was announced yesterday. Two subsidiaries of the Canadian-owned Sandpiper Oil and Gas have been licensed to prospect over 337 square kilometres (40,305 square yards) in south Antrim.

The licence includes an area where the NI Geological Survey has found a promising geological feature and other areas where no exploration has taken place. North West Exploration from Belfast is progressing with prospecting over 1,490 square kilometres both north and south of Lough Neagh, while Fynegold Petroleum is prospecting over 340 square kilometres around Larne. Further licensing announcements are expected next month.

## STOCK MARKET

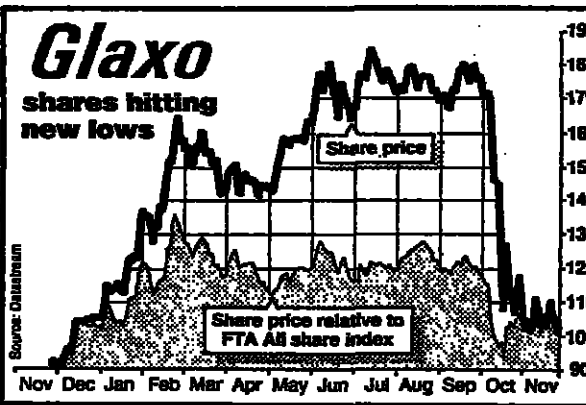
## Dollar-earners reel while index plunges below 1,600

By Geoffrey Foster

The storm clouds were hovering over the City of London once again yesterday after another freefall by the dollar caused £15 billion to be wiped off shares in London.

Leading exporters sustained fairly heavy selling — by recent standards — as fears grew that the United States authorities would let the dollar slide in an effort to cut the massive US budget deficit. With little chance of buyers re-emerging from their seasonal hibernation of the past week or so, sellers were centre stage for long periods and all market-makers could do was to mark quotations lower in an effort to stay clear of trouble.

The upshot was that the day took on the same sort of depressing proportions last experienced just after the market crash in October. The FTSE 100-share index plummeted through the 1,600 level, showing a decline of well over



the Chancellor's remark that interest rates will remain stable in the short-term, he will be forced to cut base rates if the pound continues to appreciate against the dollar. One dealer suggested that a move towards cheaper money could help arrest the downward drift in share prices and restore confidence.

Shares of Glaxo, the pharmaceutical group, which have tumbled from £17.50 to less than £10 after disappointing figures and the stock market crash, remained under pressure. They fell 53p further to a new low of 98.5p, after 980p, as more than 2 million shares changed hands.

Glaxo was dragged lower with other leading exporters as the dollar continued to depreciate on foreign exchanges, but the shares managed to edge off the bottom after some favourable news on the drugs front.

Glaxo's new oral anti-asthma treatment, Volmax, has been granted a government licence for its sale in Britain.

The announcement helped bring a smile to the faces of Glaxo supporters who were told last week that the French government was putting pressure on the company to reduce the price of Zantac, its best-selling anti-ulcer drug, by at least one-third.

This immediately induced fears that other governments, including the US, which makes up the bulk of Zantac sales, could follow suit if the French got their way.

But Morgan Stanley, the American broker, in a reassuring reply to the French price threat, states that the proposed price reduction of Zantac in France is unlikely to

have much effect on the earnings outlook since the country accounts for less than 4 per cent of Zantac's international sales of £800 million.

Moreover, based on Morgan Stanley forecasts of Zantac sales for this financial year and next of £1 billion and £1.17 billion respectively, the full price cut, if imposed, could reduce profits by £4 million and £16 million respectively.

The spectre of Latin American debt reared its ugly head to depress the leading clearing banks. News from a meeting in Acapulco that eight heavily indebted countries, led by Brazil, Mexico and Argentina, called for their collective debt of \$350 million to be halved — threatening to take action if their demands were not met by creditors — sent a shudder through the sector.

Sellers were in action from the start of business, with Lloyds Bank retreating 28p to 220p and National Westminster Bank dropping 38p to 510p.

Barclays Bank, which recently revealed that its Barclays de Zoete Wedd securities and merchant banking subsidiary incurred a loss of nearly £50 million on share dealing as a result of the stock market collapse, ended the session 28p lower at 430p. Midland Bank, in which the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation is to take a 14.9 per cent stake, finished 18p lower at 355p.

Standard Chartered, the international bank, also succumbed to the malaise, falling 20p to 450p. The shares have been under a cloud since the equity crash as dealers feared that Mr Robert Holmes & Court may be forced to sell his

14.9 per cent stake in the company as a result of the heavy losses incurred by his interests on the Australian market.

Oil shares took a hammering as news became frayed ahead of the meeting of ministers from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Vienna on December 9. Dealers are concerned that another oil price crisis might be on the cards if Opec does not get its house in order.

They state that Opec members are overproducing by 2 million barrels a day and so stocks are far too high. Any effort to run them down could mean a fall in demand early next year to 3 million barrels a day, which is less than present output.

Sellers were, therefore, out in force yesterday on fears that an oil price war was inevitable. BP, in which the Kuwait Investment Office holds a 10.1 per cent stake

after buying shares of BP "new" shares about 36p below the Government's offer-for-sale price in the wake of the crash, fell by 7p to 244p. BP "new", meanwhile, dropped 4.5p to 73p to stand perilously close to the Bank of England's safety-net level of 70p.

Other casualties in the sector included Bldoil, 15p lower at 179p; Eastwinds Oil, 3p cheaper at 209p; and Shell, 28p down at 980p.

Gold shares were immune to the depression elsewhere in the market. Investors rushed in to buy gold shares as the price of the precious metal kept 14.50 an ounce to £492.50 at one stage on hedge buying. Some dealers are certain the gold price could sail past the magic \$500-an-ounce level before Christmas.

Consolidated Gold Fields jumped 65p to 905p, after 930p, while Charter Consolidated put on 24p to 299p.

## RTZ sparks MK into life

RTZ has pinned its colours — and its cash — to the most of MK Electric Group by declaring in the formal offer document that MK is an "excellent fit" and that MK is "in line with RTZ's stated strategy of expansion of its industrial interests."

RTZ's message is thus crystal clear. Having worked out that RTZ Pillar and MK Electric have complementary products, and that the mutual benefits of the acquisition are substantial, RTZ is clearly determined that it is going to have MK in its fold.

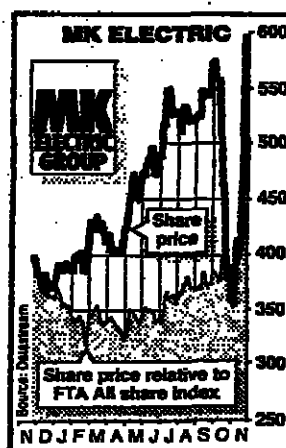
However, the sparks over MK are only just beginning to fly, so if the industrial-mining giant is not to have its public face muddled by backing away, or to be embarrassed by somebody else coming to steal what has clearly been in its sights for some time, it will have to be prepared to fight.

The message from the market place is that RTZ's price will have to be raised from the sighting shot of 550p. Not only is there at least one other stalker in the market — the French group Legrand by late yesterday afternoon had built up a 7 per cent stake paying up to 650p each — but MK's share price was last night well above the bid at 657p.

The arguments that 550p is generous, that the offer is 17 times historic earnings, and that cash is king in today's uncertain markets has already been used to bend shareholders' ears. And because stock markets are in a volatile mood, many ordinary shareholders will be tempted to jump out while they can.

But there are grounds for sitting tight for the moment. For those who can afford not to be tempted by immediate cash in the market place, there are the benefits of painstaking rationalization, product development and market reorientation which are now starting to come through to profits.

And if RTZ is serious about its love affair, it will come back again.



## Caradon

The picture presented by Caradon, the bathroom specialists, is one of extreme financial and commercial well-being.

The most usual quick measure, pretax profits, has been distorted by the benefit of greatly reduced interest costs. The restructured balance sheet, using the cash raised at last June's flotation, and subsequent cash flows have enabled it to eliminate debt.

And who will quarrel with interim turnover up 21 per cent to £82 million, pre-interest profit up 40 per cent to £10.2 million and earnings per share virtually doubled from 6.3p to 12.4p?

With little seasonality in the bathroom fittings and plastic moulding businesses which make up Caradon's business in roughly equal parts, the group could make about £19.5 million pretax for the year, giving a prospective multiple of about nine.

This lowly multiple has temporarily frustrated Caradon's expansion plans. A large acquisition for shares is out of the question until vendors' expectations fall in line with the market.

There are worries that a loss of consumer confidence will hit Caradon's markets, but much of this is reflected in the current 227p price.

## Alexon dresses up

Alexon's share price managed to resist the worst of yesterday's market slide, losing only 5p to 290p, because of higher-than-expected interim profits, which caused analysts to upgrade full-year forecasts to about £9.25 million against £6.9 million last year.

The 13 per cent boost to clothing turnover, translated into a 27 per cent increase in operating profit and an even more impressive 50 per cent gain in pretax profit.

Margins widened as Alexon reaped the benefits of its highly efficient manufacturing plant. Strong cash generation also wiped out borrowings and produced a small interest accrual. The company has more than £1 million in the bank.

The company's Claremont division, supplying Marks and Spencer, lifted turnover and profits, less than the Alexon division, but still

managed to improve its margin in what has not been an easy trading period for M&S.

The recent acquisition of D&H Cohen, an M&S supplier, will increase the dependence on M&S beyond 50 per cent of total turnover, but the company believes this will correct itself through greater organic growth, and possibly acquisitions on the Alexon side.

Alexon plans to continue opening new concessions and free-standing shops in Britain, Continental Europe and to a lesser extent the US, at the rate of 10 every half year.

Capital expenditure is expected to be about £4 million this year, with £3 million going on retail properties for Alexon. Spending to bring Cohen up to Claremont's operating efficiency will probably wait until next year.

The prospective p/e ratio is modest at just under 10.

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Abbey 436	Costs 2,725	Land Sec 2,581	Rover 344
Ad-Lyons 2,123	CU 1,437	Laporte 98	Royal Bank 970
Amrad 1,711	CU 1,437	LBS 788	Royal Ind 788
ASDA 1,086	CU 1,437	Leeds 1,509	Sainsbury 1,509
AB Foods 710	Courtauld 1,482	Lorrie 1,867	Sainsbury 2,815
Argyll 4,001	Delgaty 278	Lucas 447	Scott & N 308
Barr 1,533	Dalgety 1,533	Meat 387	Scott 1,516
BET 1,318	Dixons 2,629	M&S 4,253	Sedgwick 671
BTR 590	ECC 277	Menzies 281	Shell 805
BAT 3,470	Enbridge 435	Metals 2,229	Shell & A 1,169
Barclays 2,009	Farran 541	Metals 2,229	STC 1,169
Bass 401	Fisons 541	Midland 2,367	Stan Chart 92
Becham 1,586	Gen Acc 820	Midland 2,367	Stan Chart 92
Biffa 110	Gen Acc 820	Midland 2,367	Stan Chart 92
BICC 503	Glaxo 2,684	NH Food 41	T & N 396
Blue Arrow 6,518	Globe 1,856	P&O 388	Tarmac 1,013
Blue Circle 95	Globe 1,856	P&O 388	Tarmac 1,013
BOC 810	Grand Met 1,704	Pearson 488	T&N 396
Boots 3,338	GUUS 'A' 61	Pillington 1,721	Tesco 1,899
Br Agro 1,255	GUUS 'A' 61	Pillington 1,721	Tesco 1,899
Br Airways 1,185	Guinness 1,752	Prudential 413	Tridinger 519
Br Comm 588	Hamm 'A' 191	Racal 2,454	THF 3,691
Br Cons 7,037	Hamm 'A' 191	Racal 2,454	THF 3,691
Br Petrol 7,918	Hawley 509	R&B 217	Unilever 473
Br Telecom 603	Hawley 509	R&B 217	Unilever 473
Brit 1,295	Heathrow 1,432	Reckitt 552	Unilever 473
Burd 2,579	IMI 221	Reckitt 552	Unilever 473
Burnish 153	ICI 1,740	RMC 127	Whitbread 1,887
Burton 1,845	Jaguar 1,298	RTZ 2,804	Wills Fab 421
C&W 4,470	Leasco 153	RTZ 2,804	Wills Fab 421
Cadbury 1,853	Ladbroke 670	RTZ 2,804	Wills Fab 421

## Unilock half-time profits slump

The uncertainty in London's financial markets is expected to dent profits this year at Unilock Holdings, the office partitions specialist which graduated from the over-the-counter market to a full listing in July 1986.

Unilock, which in February bought HCP, the hearing and air conditioning systems manufacturer, yesterday reported a drop in taxable profits for the six months to October from £1.1 million to £759,000. Sales were almost unchanged, at £12.5 million.

The half-year profits included an exceptional £255,000 gain resulting from the sale of a property in Crawley. Earnings per share dipped from 3.39p to 3.06p and the interim dividend is staying at 1p.

## ABS ahead

American Business Systems plans to pay an interim 0.6p dividend in February for the half year to September 30 and expects to pay a final of not less than 1p. With figures in 2000s: turnover 16,224 (1,020), gross profit 6,334 (1,888), distribution costs 1,921 (nil), administration expenses 2,657 (677), operating profit 1,936 (289), other operating income 83 (nil), interest received less payable 99 (64 payable), pretax profit 2,138 (335 loss), tax 124 (nil), extraordinary debit nil (2,173). Earnings per share 5.4p (21.0p). A comparison with the equivalent period in the previous year is not meaningful as it relates to the now largely discontinued oil operation.

## Forward move

Forward Group, through its subsidiary, Circuit, has acquired the assets and business of Technograph Microcircuits from the RHP group for £250,000 cash. Forward, based at Tazeworth, Staffordshire, manufactures small batch proto-

type printed circuit boards. Technograph manufactures ceramic-based microcircuits for the industrial electronics industries at its purpose-built factory at Bracknell, Berkshire.

## Scantronic boost

An interim dividend of 0.43p is to be paid by Scantronic Holdings for the six months to September 30 compared with 0.36p last year. With figures in 2000s: turnover 7,038 (3,789), operating costs 6,022 (3,196), group operating profit 1,016 (593), other operating charges nil (42), interest payable 88 (24), pretax profit 928 (577), tax 325 (184), minorities 12 (nil). Earnings per share 2.75p (1.89p), fully diluted 2.58p (1.89p). The company says that success achieved with new products will increasingly benefit trading for the full year.

## Healthy Gibbon

The Gibbon Lyons Group is to pay an interim dividend for the six months ended September 30 of 1.5p (1.32p) on February 9. With figures in 2000s: turnover 4,547 (1,953), including exports 169 (75), pretax profit 384 (265), tax 154 (105), extraordinary items 90 debit (nil). Earnings per share 5.2p (4.0p) — fully diluted 4.6p (nil). The company's market penetration has continued to increase.

## Country loss

Country and New Town Properties for the six months ended July 31 is to pay an interim dividend of 0.7p. With figures in 2000s: gross rental income 6,226 (5,921), surplus on disposal of properties nil (453), loss before tax 2,684 (1,264 profit), tax 285 (416), minority debit 833 (272 credit), loss attributable 2,134 (576 profit), loss per share 4.70p (1.27p earnings).

## No referral

The Trade Secretary has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by Eagle Trust of Samuelson Group to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

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# Rival bid threatens Banco de Bilbao's merger plan

From Harry Debelias, Madrid

The unexpected announcement of a rival takeover bid yesterday threatened to upset Banco de Bilbao's plans to take over Spain's top-rated privately-owned financial institution, Banco Español de Crédito (Banesto).

Negotiations aimed at merging the two banks broke down yesterday morning when Banesto rejected Banco de Bilbao's final, "peaceful" offer.

No sooner had Bilbao said it would give details of its takeover bid to the stock exchange later in the day, however, than Petromed, a leading Spanish refinery, with

a 7 per cent holding in Banesto, announced its intention of seeking control.

Trading in shares of both banks on the Madrid stock market, which had been suspended for the past 11 days during the negotiations, remained suspended indefinitely yesterday on news of the second takeover bid.

Market sources said Banco de Bilbao was ready to offer six new shares and one old share of its stock plus 15,000 pesetas (£75) for each 10 Banesto shares. No information was available about Petromed's scheme for the takeover.

When the president of Bilbao, the third-ranking Spanish bank, first announced his takeover intentions, he argued that a merger with Banesto would result in a bank big enough to compete in the EEC.

Bilbao's takeover move, while the first, was not expected to be the only bid by a leading Spanish bank to increase its size in expectation of EEC competition.

While the government did not intervene in the talks between Bilbao and Banesto, it was no secret that the finance ministry favoured a merger or a takeover.

Shares in other banks rose on the Madrid stock market yesterday, presumably on the assumption that more takeover offers were in the offing.

Meanwhile, the vice chairman and managing director of Banesto, Señor José María López de Letona, decided to leave the company last Friday.

His resignation was said to be due to "profound discrepancies" unrelated to the merger effort. His resignation won Banesto a weekend respite, since Bilbao had originally set last Friday as a deadline for ending negotiations.

## News Corp deal inquiry

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Australia's Trade Practices Commission (TPC) began an official inquiry yesterday into reported plans by The News Corporation to buy John Fairfax group's interests in Australian Associated Press and Australian Newspapers Mills.

The TPC said it had held preliminary talks with The News Corporation and Fairfax. However, The News Corporation and Fairfax would neither confirm this, nor that the sale had been agreed.

The federal opposition and the Australian Journalists' Association said such a sale could enable The News Corporation to monopolize newspaper and news service.

The Liberal Party's spokesman on communications, Senator Tony Messer, said there were "concerns about market dominance arising from the (reported) sale."

He added: "It is important that the production and supply of newspaper remain subject to competitive market forces."

An AJA spokesman said a sale to The News Corporation would have a "disastrous effect on the diversity of information and news in Australia."

If the sale were to take place, The News Corporation would hold about 82 per cent of AAP, the country's sole national news agency, and 93 per cent of ANM, Australia's main supplier of newspaper.

A spokesman for Senator Gareth Evans, the Communications Minister, said the government would not comment until the TPC inquiry had ended.

Analysts said the John Fairfax holdings in the two companies were being sold to reduce the borrowings by Mr Warwick Fairfax, who has almost completed his \$2.5 billion (£1 billion) takeover of the Sydney-based media group controlled by his family for 150 years.

It is understood The News Corporation has agreed to pay \$275 million for the stakes — the amount Mr Fairfax had planned to raise by relisting David Syme, a Fairfax subsidiary, whose chief asset is *The Age*, Australia's most profitable newspaper.

But Mr Fairfax's inability to protect Syme from a market raid caused him to cancel the listing, analysts said.

If The News Corporation succeeds in buying the Fairfax interests in AAP, it will have a further 7 per cent in Reuters. It is already Reuters' biggest shareholder.

## COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

# Has Reagan been cast in the Hoover role?

The shoots of optimism assiduously cultivated when it seemed that the stock market had lost much of its initial momentum were withering visibly yesterday. Led by Tokyo's perception that the declining dollar was a growing menace to the international economy — the Nikkei Dow index dropped 365 points to 22,686 — London went through 1600 on the FT-SE 100 index before closing off the bottom at 1579.9, a fall of 71.7.

Sharp though these falls are they do not constitute the second wave of selling for which the wise are waiting. Conceivably it might be the start, though I think not. The readings are serious but not yet grave: in the sense that disaster is not inevitable.

The context in which readings are being taken is the American political situation. In just under 12 months the American people will elect a new president. It cannot be President Reagan — the Constitution bars a third term — but the chances of another Republican succeeding him will diminish sharply if the American economy moves into recession next year, a move which Wall Street would anticipate, and depending on the gravity of its responses, influence.

It is commonly accepted that the US rate of growth will ease next year, so the argument is about degree, not direction. This is something the Administration believes, quite rightly, it can do something about in the short term. The first rule of election politics is "charity begins at home": the White House is currently concerned with exporting at least some of the recession it fears may let the Democrats in the door.

This policy has two immediate and obvious effects. First, the concern which every country outside America is braying about — namely the size of the US budget deficit — does not head the list of Reagan priorities. There will be an agreement with Congress promising a sizeable reduction in the deficit, but nothing like big enough to appease those who have tried to persuade investors that the stock market crash was down to this one factor and if only the Administration would act decisively we could all turn the clocks back to early October.

The second practical consequence of the prevailing White House view of the world is that you do not hasten and worsen the thing you fear most, i.e. recession, by raising the cost of money. Stock and bond markets throughout the world are now sharply focussed on this simple truth and the flight from the dollar which is its most graphic expression. A depreciating dollar may, or it may not, lead eventually to a narrowing of that other great American deficit — trade. But for as far ahead as the Administration seems to want to look, it will protect American business and American employment by hitting the exports of the big suppliers to the American market, notably West Germany and Japan but also Britain.

While the Americans resolutely refuse to raise their interest rates there is not much beyond intervening in the forex markets and cutting their own rates — and not too much scope for the latter — that outsiders can do. Except to pray that President Reagan, however devoted he may be to the Republican cause in 1988, does not see himself in the Herbert Hoover tradition.

## The debtors' cartel

As usual, British bankers are playing it cool over the latest Latin American debt development: the invention of the "Group of 8" Latin American debtor countries — a debtors' cartel pledged to help each other win better rescheduling terms from their creditors.

The weekend meeting in Acapulco might have made specific proposals on how other Latin American countries could help Brazil in its current negotiations with international banks; but it did not. Instead, it made a series of well-rehearsed statements about achieving easier rescheduling terms linked to falling secondary debt market values, and concessional interest rates.

Coming much nearer home, the scene is steadily being set for a further round of bad debt provisioning by the banks. Initially, this may take the form of moderate general provisions — following Midland's £100 million provision announced two weeks ago. Next year it is likely to mean more specific provisions against Latin American debt. Stronger banks, like National Westminster, are already rumoured to be considering doubling such provisions to 60 or 70 per cent of their exposure; but not all banks can afford this.

Standard Chartered is the weakest link in Britain. With its capital ratios already badly strained, it desperately needs to sell the Californian Union Bank subsidiary to enable it to make any higher provisions. If Standard nets only \$800 million (£437.15 million) — the lowest estimate currently being touted — its ratios will still look low.

For the other large banks, the situation is not so serious. According to a study published by Hoare Govett, the broker, all of them can afford to boost provisions to above 50 per cent without appalling damage to their capital ratios.

The stock market is also sanguine, at least on this score. Yesterday it marked down the sector only in line with the general market fall. Apart from Standard, current share prices are already below the net tangible asset value of the banks as projected for the end of 1988. That is comforting news — as long as there are no sizeable shocks. But there must still be the danger that the Brazilian deal will hit an iceberg or that the Latin Americans will, for once, manage to mount a united front against their creditors. In that event, all bets would be off, yet again.

## Mansfield to market Foster's

By Cliff Feltham

Elders DXL, the Australian drinks company, took another step towards Fosterizing the world yesterday with the agreement of the independent Mansfield Brewery to sell Foster's lager at its 350 public houses.

Elders, which owns Courage, already sells Foster's through nearly 19,000 outlets in Britain and claims it is one of the top three best-selling brands.

As part of the link-up, 20 Courage public houses trading under the John Smith's banner will be leased to Mansfield to give a further boost to the promotion.

Foster's will be sold beside Mansfield's own regional brand, Markman.

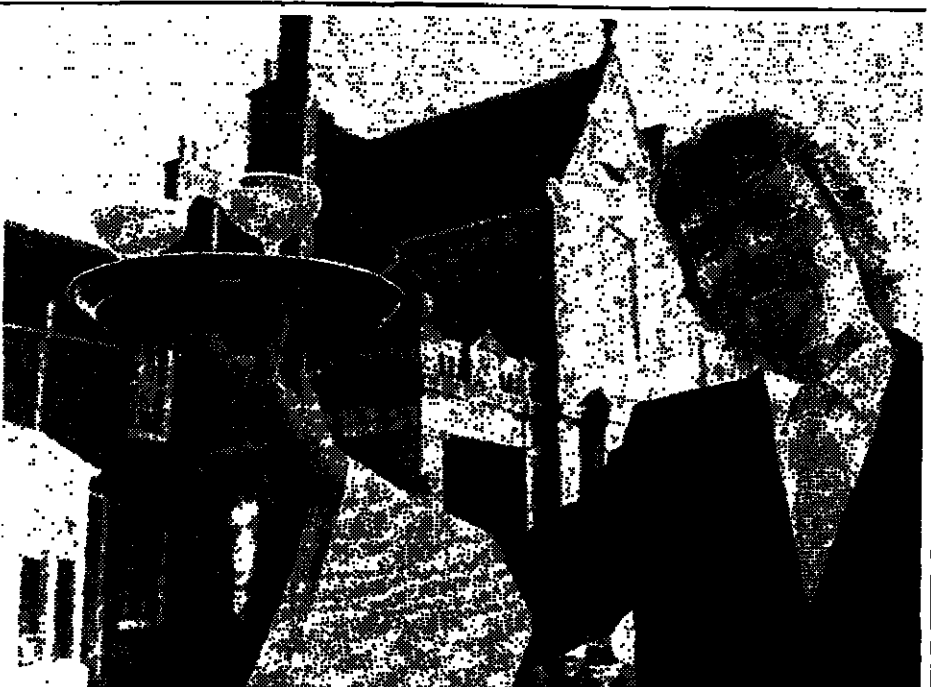
Mr John Hings, the managing director of the brewery which covers a large area including Nottinghamshire, Humberside and South Yorkshire, said: "We needed a deal like this because we are missing out at the growing end of the draught beer market."

"Foster's is a younger person's drink and we will benefit from the tie-up with a nationally advertised brand."

Mr Mike Foster, the Courage managing director of trading, said: "It is a super deal for us. We get extra distribution. We would like to do similar deals in the future."

As part of the agreement, Mansfield Brewery can brew Foster's when sales are built up.

Elders has acquired a 13 per cent stake in Greene King, the East Anglian brewer. But the brewer has turned down a proposal by Elders to sell Foster's through its 800 public houses.



## Hotel chain next stop for Branson

Mr Richard Branson, the Virgin records and airline magnate, pictured yesterday, is planning his latest project — buying an hotel.

In a joint venture with Laing, the construction group, he has spent more than £1 million on buying the Norton House Hotel, near Edinburgh airport.

The acquisition represents the final link in a chain of travel interests for tourists and business people. Mr Branson said it would be the first in a chain of quality hotels in British tourist cities.

Mr Branson, who has bought the hotel through his Voyager Group, announced he may consider introducing Vir-

gin flights on shuttle routes between Scotland and London because he believed current fares were too high.

The Norton House Hotel, a former Victorian mansion set in 55 acres of parkland, was used during the 1984 miners' strike as a meeting place for Sir Ian MacGregor and Mr Arthur Scargill.

## Tate & Lyle returns to coal

By Our Energy Correspondent

Tate & Lyle, London's largest industrial energy user, is to return to coal for its power requirements, with a new computerized steam and power plant which will also be able to feed the surplus electricity it generates into the national grid.

The sugar refiners, based on the Thames at Silvertown, used coal for steam raising and power generation until the

early 1960s, when it switched to oil, and for the past 15 years has used natural gas.

However, government grants for new coal-fired plant, advances in coal burning technology and a highly competitive coal supply contract negotiated with British Coal has led to the company spending more than £10 million on new coal-burning equipment.

The plant will be capable of generating 10,000 megawatts — enough to supply the power

for a small town of about 7,000 homes — but two megawatts, at most, will be fed into the London Electricity Board supply grid.

The coal for the plant — a contract for 100,000 tonnes a year has been placed at a price which both British Coal and Tate & Lyle are keeping secret — will come from the Kufford pit in the Midlands.

Construction and commissioning of the plant has begun.

## Call for separate power board sell-off

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A report by one of the country's most respected independent energy consultants has concluded that the 12 area electricity boards in England and Wales should be privatized individually.

The report, by Caminus Energy of Cambridge, was not commissioned or funded by any outside agency. It does, however, come to the same conclusions as a report written by London Economic Consultants, and commissioned by the boards. This said that each

existing board should remain in its present form, be allowed to move into the generating business, and have the freedom to buy from whichever generating companies are set up after privatization.

However, it is understood that Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, has already been advised by officials at the Department of Energy and the outside advisers he has appointed that some area boards would be unable to stand on their own financially, or attract the necessary investment for privatization from the City.

The suggestions he is now considering include merging several of the area boards and creating five or six enlarged boards, each with a mix of large industrial and domestic consumers. They would also be more geographically aligned with the existing power station network, which would be privatized separately, either as one unit or on a geographic basis.

The Caminus report says that the best interests of the area boards and the regions they serve would be met by privatizing the boards in-

dividually, and allowing them to develop and expand.

The reports says: "It will be best for consumers because they will be served by a local company responsive to their needs."

"It will be the best for the electricity industry because it will harness the existing loyalties of both employees and customers."

"It will be best for the regions the area boards serve because it will be in the interest of the boards themselves to promote the development of regional economies."

## Courage keeps its bottle

Lord Hanson, who hit the headlines after helping himself — quite legally — to several oil paintings from the Courage boardroom at its Southwark Bridge headquarters when he took the company over as part of the Imperial Group 18 months ago, does not usually miss a trick. But I hear that one such trick, which did escape his eagle-eyed detection, is still the cause of much mirth by those in the know at the brewery. At the time, news of Hanson's whirlwind tour of inspection horrified Courage executives. But staff at its wine and spirits subsidiary Saccocc & Speed, based in Park Royal, west London, had clearly learned fast from the shrewd Yorkshire peer. Convinced that their priceless cellar of rare vintage wines and ports, some dating back to the Napoleonic Wars, would also soon be taken from them, they bricked up the entrance to the cellar and stacked cases in front of it, concealing the bricks. Courage, then sold on to Elders, in turn sold Saccocc & Speed to IDV. I am assured, however, that S&S kept the historic wine collection for itself.

● A chief executive and unpopular martinet told his public relations officer that to celebrate the company's 25th anniversary, "I'd like something that will put me on the front page, please the staff and not be expensive." The PR man returned next day with a handbag.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Closing down? Sail

Life might be depressing in the stock market these days, but it is heartening to learn that not all brokers have entirely lost their sense of humour. Yesterday, Richard Austin, an associate director of Stock Beech, one of Britain's largest regional broking firms, was having his daily chat about the sorry state of the City's affairs with S&H Hammond, a director of the lock and heating group

Yale and Valor, when he decided to order a couple of new sailors' life-jackets from Valor's Crewsaver subsidiary. "I must have said, 'The market's down another 70 points — and can you send me two life jackets?'" Austin says. "I didn't realize what it must have sounded like until I heard the roar of laughter coming from the other end of the telephone."

### Rigged up

Talk about alarming. In the annual report of Aylesbury Vale Play Association, chairman John Garratt graciously thanks the "young men" of HM Prison, Aylesbury, for their efforts in helping to install a burglar alarm in the local play centre. "It seems to have prevented the previous

situation of regular breaking in," he says gratefully. Poachers turned gamekeepers, or what?

### Crashing in

City economists, finding themselves with unwanted time on their hands as a result of the crash, now have a chance to put it to profitable use. American Express is awarding prizes totalling \$40,000 for essays on international economics relevant to financial markets. The winning entries to the first competition, held earlier this year, are published as a collection this week by the Oxford University Press. The competition, which closes next June, is again in honour of the late Robert Marjolin, the eminent French economist, and will undoubtedly receive its fair share of detailed analyses of the crash of 1987, some written from first-hand experience.



Carol Leonard

## Christmas isn't miles away if you're posting abroad.



So pick up a leaflet from your post office and get cooking.

By air, By land, By Christmas, By hand.



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### Portfolio -Gold-

From your portfolio card check your daily share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total prize money. If you are a back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Reidway	Industrial L-R	100
2	Silkestone	Oil & Gas	100
3	SPP	Industrial S-Z	100
4	Geest	Food	100
5	DOT Group	Electrical	100
6	Tie Rack	Building, Roads	100
7	Marshall's (Hull)	Building, Roads	100
8	Six Handed	Industrial S-Z	100
9	Humberport	Paper, Print, Adv	100
10	Ward Hides	Building, Roads	100
11	White (Conolly)	Building, Roads	100
12	Emco	Electrical	100
13	Domestic Int	Industrial A-D	100
14	Gerrard Nri	Building, Roads	100
15	Hunting P S	Oil & Gas	100
16	Manganese Bronze	Industrial L-R	100
17	Dura Estates	Property	100
18	Estimate (sa)	Oil & Gas	100
19	Whence	Industrial S-Z	100
20	Smith & Neph (sa)	Industrial S-Z	100
21	Reed Executive	Industrial L-R	100
22	BSG	Industrial A-D	100
23	Barker & Dobson	Food	100
24	Aurora	Industrial A-D	100
25	Unilever	Electrical	100
26	Locker (T)	Industrial L-R	100
27	Croft	Chemicals, Plastics	100
28	Haynes Publishing	Newspapers, Pub	100
29	Virgin	Leisure	100
30	Meridale	Industrial L-R	100
31	Home Qm	Industrial L-R	100
32	Bulmer (H F)	Food	100
33	Kennedy Brooks	Industrial S-Z	100
34	Wills Gp	Industrial S-Z	100
35	Auto Sec	Electrical	100
36	Bradford Gp	Industrial A-D	100
37	Hopkinson	Industrial S-Z	100
38	VG Instruments	Electrical	100
39	File Indam	Industrial S-Z	100
40	Chamberlain Ph	Industrial A-D	100
41	Harrison Ind	Building, Roads	100
42	Alston	Building, Roads	100
43	Quest Automation	Electrical	100
44	Isle Bus Comm	Newspapers, Pub	100

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of 28,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total

BRITISH FUNDS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

UNDATED	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

INDEX-LINKED	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

ELECTRICALS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

CINEMAS, TV	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

DRAPERY, STORES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

HOTELS, CATERERS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

INDUSTRIALS A-D	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

S-Z	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

OILS, GAS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

SHOES, LEATHER	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

TEXTILES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

TOBACCO	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

SHIPPING	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

150

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Heavy falls

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 23. Dealings end Friday. Contango day December 7. Settlement day December 14.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (sa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 26)

BREWERIES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

BUILDING, ROADS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FINANCE, LAND	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FINANCIAL TRUSTS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FOODS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

CINEMAS, TV	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

DRAPERY, STORES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

HOTELS, CATERERS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

INDUSTRIALS A-D	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

BREWERIES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

BUILDING, ROADS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FINANCE, LAND	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FINANCIAL TRUSTS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

FOODS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

CINEMAS, TV	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

DRAPERY, STORES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

HOTELS, CATERERS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

INDUSTRIALS A-D	
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High Low	Open

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HOTELS, CATERERS	
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INDUSTRIALS A-D	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

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FOODS	
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High Low	Open

CINEMAS, TV	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

DRAPERY, STORES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

HOTELS, CATERERS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

INDUSTRIALS A-D	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

### Portfolio -Gold-

DAILY DIVIDEND  
£4,000

Claims required for  
-22 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

OVERSEAS TRADERS	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

PROPERTY	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

MINING	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

SHIPPING	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

SHOES, LEATHER	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

TEXTILES	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

TOBACCO	
1987	Price
High Low	Open

Ex dividend a Ea b Forecast dividend c Interest payment passed d Proportion of dividend and cost exclude a special dividend e Pre-merger figures f Forecast earnings e Ea other Ea rights a Ea share of share split 1 Tax-free No significant data



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Edited by Matthew May

## COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

## Where the money is

## THE WEEK

By Robert Matthews

Salaries in the computer industry rose by an average of nearly seven per cent during 1987, according to a survey just published by the National Computing Centre. London and the South-East lead the rest of the country with rises averaging 7.8 per cent.

Chief analyst programmers won the biggest salary boosts — 8.4 per cent — to bring the average remuneration for the post to £16,400.

Moving around the country brings great benefits in basic salary, as well as rate at which it goes up. Salaries are typically 15 per cent to 20 per cent higher in London than the national average in most job categories.

The survey showed that the geographical disparities tend to be largest at the lower end of the seniority spectrum.

A systems programmer in London typically earns about £16,500, compared to the national average of £14,260, while the same job in the North of England would earn about £13,300.

The pay gap narrows at the more senior levels: a head of management services in London typically earns £27,600, compared to the national average of £24,130, while the same position in the North would command £23,600.

As in last year's survey, the

most lucrative jobs are shown to be in finance, distribution and catering, with remuneration in the scientific and public sectors lagging behind — a systems manager in finance earns an average £15,700, compared with just over £13,000 for those in the science or public sector.

The gap closes only slightly at the more senior levels, with heads of management services in the two sectors earning around £26,700, and £22,900 respectively.

For the third year in succession, staff working in companies using Hewlett-Packard equipment turned out to be the highest-paid, with average pay for systems programmers put at £16,250.

Those working with ICL equipment came bottom of

the league table. Systems programmers there average only £12,700 — nine per cent below the national average.

The survey's compilers point out that this reflects the substantial use of ICL equipment in the badly paid public sector.

As for pay-rise prospects for the forthcoming year, the respondents estimated a figure of around 6.5 per cent. The NCC believes that if the usual relationship between expected and actual increases holds, the real increase will be slightly higher at 7.5 per cent.

The survey was based on a sample of 700 installations employing more than 11,000 people in 26 job categories.

Perks showed a slight increase over the last year, and

once again those in the south-east get the best deal, with over two-thirds getting health insurance.

About one in eight systems programmers get a company car; about a third are offered bonuses, health insurance and share options. The proportions at head of management services level were over three-quarters getting a company car, two-thirds receiving health insurance, a quarter offered share options and about 40 per cent being part of a bonus scheme.

There is little benefit in working late for those at the top, however. Fewer than one in 50 heads of management services get paid overtime, compared with more than 40 per cent of systems programmers.

There is strong demand for those with networking and communications skills, while the numbers of data preparation staff employed within the industry continues to fall.

The shortages are good news for contract staff, at least, who are now widely used to establish at least five such centres throughout Europe, writes Robert Matthews.

There are those who think supercomputers are used only by scientists looking for new prime numbers or an understanding of black holes. In making its announcement last week, however, IBM made clear that it is convinced supercomputers will play a key role in the economic future of Europe.

They are already proving crucial in some fields: it was a Cray-built supercomputer at the Reading-based European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting that correctly predicted October's hurricane.

IBM Europe is providing about £22 million over the next two years for the setting-up of the centres. Included in that figure is a parallel programme under which five universities with suitable IBM computers will be given software and hardware that the company says is capable of turning their machines into supercomputers.

IBM explains its apparent altruism by saying that it wants to increase the level of supercomputer expertise, as this is likely to have a crucial bearing on the economic success of both the UK and Europe over the coming years, and consequently on the level of IBM business in the region.

However, Mr Brian Whitaker, the company's academic systems marketing manager, emphasized that it would not demand that the supercomputer centres be used solely for commercially-oriented purposes.



Brian Whitaker: supercomputer centres not solely for commercial purposes

## IBM's new Euro move

Last week, IBM announced that it was to set up a national "supercomputing" centre in Britain, as part of a Europe-wide company initiative to establish at least five such centres throughout Europe, writes Robert Matthews.

There are those who think supercomputers are used only by scientists looking for new prime numbers or an understanding of black holes. In making its announcement last week, however, IBM made clear that it is convinced supercomputers will play a key role in the economic future of Europe.

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## A surplus at the top to offset the market skills shortage

By Caroline Berman

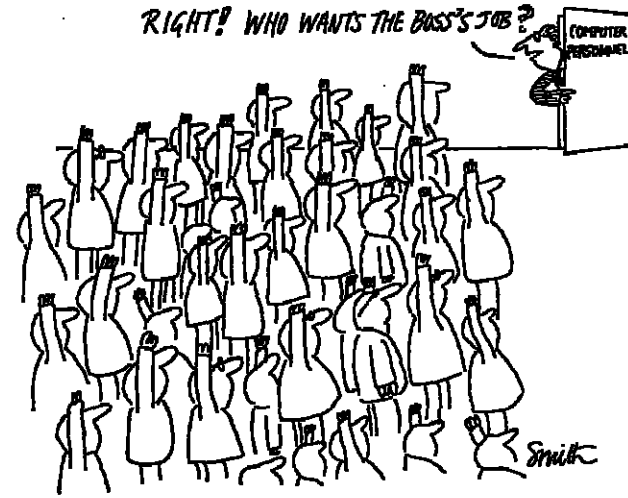
There are too many heavyweights in computing. Although there is currently a skills shortage in virtually all areas of the computer recruitment market, in one area there is actually a surplus, and that is at the top.

In the middle range grades, for people with one to ten years' experience there is a shortage in programming languages and operating systems from Unix and C to Cobol and Cics, and from communications and database experts to systems programmers. But computing has become too top heavy, according to several recruitment agencies.

The computer industry has now passed its silver anniversary and there are plenty of people on the market with around 15 to 25 years of experience, expecting to earn £25-30,000 per year, plus a car. The problem is that there are hundreds of them chasing very few jobs.

"These senior people have often lost touch technically. They have often become managers, not technical supremos and are therefore not in such demand," said David Walder, director at Recruit Management Services.

"Those who have done well have moved into consultancy and become specialists in communications, databases, retail systems of whatever," he continued.



People at the top are more willing to move around. And that means geographically, too. While it is difficult to persuade most people to relocate — particularly if they've got young children — for the top managers, whose children may already have grown up, relocation isn't such a family upheaval — as long as their spouse agrees to it.

And generous relocation packages are offered far more readily to top managers than to people lower down the hierarchy.

"Senior and management roles are easy to fill. There are always a lot of candidates for the data processing managers' job," Dick Schrader, managing director of the Sloagat recruitment consultancy.

"It's easy to get a short list of top quality candidates. At a

very senior level people want to move around to look for new challenges."

Once they reach a peak they do not necessarily want to move up but to go to a job of equal status and so an increase in money is not as important as a new challenge.

Despite this apparent surplus of managers, there are plenty of people aspiring to enter into their ranks. Once people have been in a hands-on job for some years, they feel it is time to move onwards and upwards.

The problem is that there are just too many of these people with such aspirations. Many no longer want to get their hands dirty doing programming any more. They may be project leaders or team leaders, but they want to get away from these areas.

## Caution in Japanese chips

## COMPUTER BRIEFING

"Once burned, twice shy" could well be the new motto of leading Japanese computer microchip makers. The companies, once saddled with massive over-capacity when their optimistic forecasts were betrayed by a market slump, are approaching a recovery with caution. But wisdom born of experience is not the sole reason for the chipmakers' caution.

A 1986 US-Japan pact on semiconductor trade under which Tokyo pledged not to sell chips at below cost is also likely to rein in Japanese output and investment plans. "Exports are now strictly controlled so it is not possible to sell cheaply overseas," said an official at a leading Japanese chipmaker.

A British company is taking on the Japanese and the Americans in computer high technology in their own backyards. Data Magnetics is Europe's only answer to the thin film magnetic recording disc industry. The company, which was founded two years ago in north Wales, has just raised a further £3 million for its development with British Coal chipping in with £1 million.

So far it has been funded to the tune of £17 million. Next year it aims to be producing half a million discs a year, with a target of taking 65 per cent of the American and Japanese markets.

## EVENTS

Corporate Computer Security, January 12-14, Brighton (0733 50535)

Which Computer, January 19-22, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01-891 5051)

Office Update, January 19-22, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham

Paddy Carlin, one of the company's founders and now marketing director, said: "It might seem an exaggeration, but our production area is more hygienic than a hospital's operating theatre."

The 1988 issue of the *Computer Users Year Book* is published this week. The 590 publication has grown to more than 2,000 pages and four volumes covering computer hardware, services, suppliers and installations. New sections this year include market-research consultants, facilities management and an index of computer installations offering time for sale.

A salary survey quotes the average rate for data processing managers of £18,300 compared to £3,600 in 1969 when the directory was first published. Further information from VNU Business publications on 01-439 4242.

Computer-aided design is moving towards new markets with a system announced last week that promises to allow fashion designers to develop garments on screen without a stitch being sewn.

The developers, Silicon Graphics, from Berkshire, say the photographs produced are sufficiently like life to be used for advertising or mail order catalogues. Called Quick Response the system does not come cheap, however. Prices start at £50,000 and rise to £200,000.

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## All the best of the industry press

PC Magazine, a monthly publication for personal computer users, was given the title of journal of the year last week in the fourth annual UK Technology Press Awards.

The awards, sponsored by The Times and Hewlett-Packard, were announced last Wednesday at a ceremony at Claridges hosted by the television presenter Cliff Michelson.

This year saw the highest number of entrants with 340 nominations from newspapers, magazines and radio and TV programmes.

PC Magazine, edited by Chris Long, won its award for an authoritative approach, a good spread of ideas and excellent use of illustrations and photographs. Runners-up were *Computer Systems* and *Microdecision*.

The BBC won the award for best TV or radio programme with an edition of *Horizon* called *In the Light of New Information* produced by Hilary Henson. It presented some ideas about the impact of technology in the form of a futuristic play.

The judges described it as head and shoulders above the rest and considered that it was how technology programmes should be made to keep the

attention of large audiences. Runners-up were *Equinox* from Channel 4 and *Microline* from the BBC.

The news journalist award went to Susan Watts, news editor for *Computer Weekly* magazine. Her winning articles were on British Telecom freezing a computerized customer service project because of reorganization, the collapse of a joint venture between British Telecom and McDonnell Douglas to provide an electronic document service and a piece on the effects of a Civil Service strike on plans to computerize the Department of Health and Social Services.

Runners-up were Paul Saunders from *PC Business World* and freelance John Kavanagh.

Barry Fox, a freelance, won the feature journalist category for contributions to the *New Scientist* and *Practical Electronics*, covering the future of optical storage, fibre optics and the corruption of computer data. Runners-up were freelancers Tony Durham and Nick Hampshire.

Martin Banks' monthly column in *Personal Computer World* won him the columnist of the year award with three of his columns that covered computer design for the disabled,

how to keep up with the furious pace of technological change and the inflexibility of computer systems. Runners-up were Clive Coldwell, editor of *Which Computer* and freelance David Tebbutt.

The best-designed journal was the weekly magazine, *Computing*, whose art editor is Tracy Lingwood. It was praised by the judges for its simple lines, smart layout, catchy headlines and good use of type and photographs. Runners-up were art director Gerry Daly, for work on *Business and Business Automation* and *Network* magazine, and art editor Helen Amy.

Freelance David Timmis, a



Winners of the UK Technology Press Awards: back row, left to right, Jane Lawrence; Cliff Michelson, who hosted the awards; Tracy Lingwood; Hilary Henson. Susan Watts. Front row: Martin Banks, David Timmis, Chris Long

runner-up in last year's awards, won the photographer of the year category with three pictures printed in *Which Computer* magazine. The judges said his picture *Software Jungle*, which showed a man's legs wading through a mass of computer discs, stood out from all the rest. Runners-up were Martin Barrad and Philip Habib.

A final category of personality of the year went to Jane Lawrence, editor of *Computer News*. It is awarded from the votes of all the applicants. The awards — which were introduced by Charles Wilson,

editor of *The Times*, and David Baldwin, managing director of Hewlett-Packard — included an HP desktop-publishing system, portable computers plus printer for the individual winners and, for team performances, cases of champagne. The winning photographer received £1,000 of photographic equipment.

Judges for the awards included Doug Erycson, director of the Computing Services Association, Jane Fraser of the Design Council, David Driver, design editor of *The Times* and Jim Brooks, chief executive of the British Computer Society.

The awards — which were introduced by Charles Wilson,

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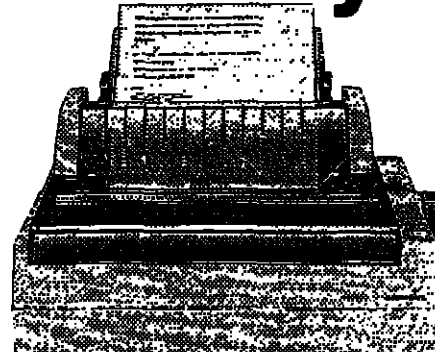
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## Will super skills still be needed in the age of easier use?

### JOBSCENE

By Eddie Coulter

There was a time when it was thought that a job in computing might equally be found among computer users or in the computer industry itself. If, however, as a result of the increasing use of computing in business, one expects future computer-job prospects to predominate among users, it might be wise to reflect on an interesting phenomenon.

Recent years have seen a small systems boom with ever-more powerful personal and minicomputers and many being strung together in distributed networks. Many companies are developing sophisticated systems relying on using databases and using powerful operating systems such as Unix. The trend will continue.

But few such installations employ any dedicated computer staff. The computer expertise is provided by computer industry support staff. Many new computer users are becoming suf-

ficiently computer-literate to run their installations on their own.

Garth Selvey, managing director of TIS Applications, which provides fourth generation languages and support for Unix systems, said: "The penetration of medium systems has only just started to scratch the surface."

"As users have become more aware of how to use systems running under Unix, so more people are specifying their own applications. We now have a situation in accounting, for example, where a new breed of computer-literate accountants are dictating what they want from a system, although if you ask them to install it they wouldn't know how to."

Others will, for example, define their own stock-control system while management people are increasingly expected to use a spreadsheet and universities are turning out high-calibre people who may well have done business studies covering computing and are aware of Unix and several computing languages.

Such people are not computer people, but sufficiently computer-aware that they are starting to demand more from their small - and sometimes not so small - systems. They are looking at distributed databases and are developing their applications without specialist computer skills.

Mr Selvey added: "Larger distributed installations may employ a systems manager or

computer liaison officer or someone as a non-computer manager to ensure that the systems are supplied according to specification and working correctly. Otherwise, the management of systems is in the hands of non-computer people - applications oriented operators."

It means that the user area likely to experience the greatest growth in systems use will achieve most of their expansion without resort to computer staff.

"More people will be needed by the computer industry itself," said Mr Selvey. "Information technology will still need specialist skills to keep it afloat."

"It depends on software tools, standards, training and bespoke coding. There are as many as 20 categories of skilled computing staff required that I can think of covering specialist applications, systems skills, backroom people, systems support staff and trainers are the two things that make it all possible."



Garth Selvey: Medium systems will increase their market penetration

## Jobs boost yet to come

By Geoff Wheelwright

The expected boost in employment opportunities for those with training in Microsoft's new OS/2 computer operating system - used on IBM's latest range of personal computers - is not likely to reach significant levels for at least a year.

According to a MORI survey published last week, only two of every five companies that were polled plan to adopt the new system within the next year for specific applications and will not be running it with more than 20 per cent of their equipment.

The survey, made for Lotus Development, interviewed a random sample of 120 large micro and software users. Most

agreed they will require the system by 1992 but few feel the need for speed and many will wait for a fuller version of OS/2, which will not be available until next summer.

Developing commercial software based on the system is also likely to take a year or so. Digital Research, a competitor of Microsoft in operating systems last week announced its own software system for

the IBM PS/2 range with an initial version for the existing MS/DOS operating system and a later one for OS/2 system.

The British operating system specialist, BOS, has also announced a new form of its operating system that will run across a number of operating systems including a possible version for OS/2 next year. Known as BOS Apex, the system claims to offer "portability" between different machines and also different types of industry standard software.

The announcement comes a few months before a plan to float BOS, formed in 1981, on the stock market which will still go ahead despite the slump.



John: senior tutor at Sundridge Park management centre

## High-flyers low on IT

By Richard Sarson

High-flyers in the City do not know enough about information technology, according to a Philips Business Systems survey which claims that 64 per cent of top managers in financial institutions have received no training in IT at all.

The report says that fewer than one in 10 directors recognize the value of knowing anything about computers and that only 22 per cent of them send their high-flyers on IT courses.

A director of a software-house, specializing in financial systems recently said that he was appalled by the amateurishness of top-level planning for Big Bang and was not at all surprised that many City systems have proved fragile under the strain of the last year. Philips had decided to act on the report, and is sponsoring a three-day course at PA's Sundridge Park management training centre near Bromley in south London.

This is aimed at teaching "fast-track" executives how to make sensible business decisions about computers, and not be at the mercy of sales people and consultants.

David Johns, who is running the courses, says the high-flyers will also have to learn how to troubleshoot on existing systems, which are in a mess.

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Applications are invited for the following posts from suitably qualified candidates who possess sound, relevant industrial and teaching experience and, preferably, are teacher trained. These posts call for candidates who are forward thinking, dynamic and capable of playing a full part in the continuing development of the work of the College.

**HEAD OF COUNTRYSIDE**  
This Department is primarily concerned with the education and training through the National Diploma Course in Countryside Recreation, of prospective Countryside Rangers. There is also an expanding programme of in-service training.  
Salary scale: £11,250 - £13,461 to £15,129 p.a. (including Surrey Allowance). Pay award pending.

**LECTURER IN NURSERY PRACTICES  
AND N.C.H. COURSE MANAGER**  
The person appointed to this post will join a large and thriving Department which provides a wide range of full-time and part-time courses in Nursery Stock Production and also General Horticulture.

Salary scale: £11,040 - £12,590 to £14,238 p.a. (including Surrey Allowance). Pay award pending.  
For further details and application forms send SAE to The Principal, to whom completed forms must be returned within 14 days from advertisement date. (47119) 220018

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR NATURE CONSERVATION  
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and Development

Salary £12,500 - £13,500 (subject to review)

This newly created post relates to the Society's expanding work in planning and development for the Society and associated Trusts. UK2000 and urban nature conservation.

For further details (including how to apply) send s.a.e. to: The Royal Society for Nature Conservation, The Green, Northfield, Lincoln LN2 2NR. Closing date: December 18 1987.

## Acting out a way to health

Dramatherapy is the most recent of the creative therapies. It aims to improve the quality of life for a client who may be mentally ill, mentally handicapped, or disabled mentally, physically or socially. Among those who can be assisted are drug addicts, alcoholics and anorexics, as well as what may be described as ordinary people with difficulties.

Clearly, the assistance that can be given varies with the client/patient. The person who feels that life has nothing good to offer may come to realise that there is hope, after all, that things can change for the better.

The frustrated can be given an opportunity to choose a role which provides an outlet for previously repressed anger. The physically handicapped may be helped to expand their movement capabilities. The mentally handicapped are provided with an expressive medium.

Small miracles sometimes occur. A very handicapped boy who had never spoken before, exclaimed: "Nice smell!" when he received an imaginary flower from a bride's bouquet.

It is the therapist's task to provide a "safe space" in which people can take risks. If they do not take risks, they are not going to change. Marina Jenkyns, chairperson of the British Association for Dramatherapists, says: "The essence of the therapeutic process is that one should move from a state of non-well-being into a state of greater well-being. This means a journey into the unknown."

Alida Gersie, leader of the postgraduate diploma course at Hertfordshire College of Art and Design, puts it this way: "Through our medium, which is drama, you help people to realise that a different kind of life is possible. You can experiment with a range of roles. You can explore what may be appropriate behaviour for you."

Not only do people tend to believe that things cannot be different for them, she says, but they also think they cannot exercise any control over events. Because of this, they cannot predict and everything becomes frightening. So one of the things that people learn within drama is to readjust sensitivity to interpersonal clues.

"In drama people walk through one door and have different outcomes to situations. So people start to rely on their intuition again and a range of new possibilities comes within reach."

Like art and music therapists, dramatherapists make a contribution to the overall treatment of a client/patient, in cooperation with fellow professionals in the health care team. They work both in institutions and in the community, mainly with groups but also with individuals.

Their techniques cover a wide range of drama and movement skills, including mime, movement, improvisation, role

In her second article on  
therapies to help the  
mentally handicapped,  
Joan Llewelyn Owens  
describes Dramatherapy,  
which aims to improve  
their quality of life

play, script, masks, etc. Myth and legend have many uses, too.

Training is normally postgraduate, and is intended both for those who wish to become dramatherapists, and for those who wish to integrate drama-therapy into their present way of working, perhaps as occupational therapists, social workers, or teachers.

Diplomat courses are offered by Hertfordshire College of Art and Design at St Albans (two year part-time and one year full-time, CNA), The College of Ripon and York St John at York (two year part-time, University of York); South Devon College of Arts and Technology at Torquay (two year part-time, University of Exeter); and the Central School of Speech and Drama, London (Central Sesame course in the use of drama and movement in therapy, one year full-time). The first three are recognised by the British Association for Dramatherapists.

St Albans also runs a two year advanced diploma for practising dramatherapists and is planning to run a two year part-time course leading to an MA in dramatherapy. Through the European Training Initiative, it provides an opportunity for workers from member states of the Community to obtain professional training.

Applicants should usually possess an appropriate degree (drama, theatre studies, performance arts, social studies) or an appropriate professional qualification (occupational therapy, psychiatric nursing, social work, drama teaching) and should have relevant work experience. However, Central Sesame will sometimes accept applicants without an academic background if they seem otherwise ideally suited to the work.

The selection process is complex and may include taking part in a workshop. Pat Watts, who leads the Central Sesame course, says they are looking for mature people, who have had a fair range of life experience, which has inevitably included some frustration and personal suffering.

This can engender empathy with others. They should know for themselves the sense of healing that movement and/or drama can bring.

Marina Jenkyns of the British Association for Dramatherapists, looks for stamina and for people who are not afraid to explore their own emotions and unconscious processes. For all courses, personal experience of some form of therapy is recommended.

Each course has a slightly different emphasis and methods taught vary, so you should make your own inquiries. I have been able to visit only two courses, at St Albans and Central Sesame.

Marian Linkkvist, who founded Sesame, stresses that movement is very important to their course and that they use "the oblique approach." It is the art form, in particular the use of metaphor, that is the healing agent. It allows a way of dealing with problems that cannot be faced directly, that is, confrontationally, and offers a structure for exploration from which the clients may find their own answers.

Pat Watts goes on to explain that they work a great deal with myths which are concerned with basic human behaviour, believing that those who re-enact myths can benefit from the ancient wisdom and energy found within them.

It is important that people should choose the roles they feel they need to play, and so have an outlet for their personal feelings, within the universality of the story.

The St Albans approach is perhaps more direct. The therapist needs to be aware of what is actually bothering the individual concerned. Sometimes, too, there are personal experiences charged with complex emotions which, when re-enacted in the presence of others can bring ease.

After training, dramatherapists are recommended to be supervised by a qualified and experienced dramatherapist. This supervision, says Ms Jenkyns, "acts as a clearing house for the therapist's own emotions and unconscious processes."

Jobs are to be found at the end of training and there is increasing appreciation in official circles of the work done by dramatherapists. But, in some cases, the newly qualified need a degree of push to sell the value of the work and of themselves. Many get several part-time jobs.

Former students sometimes get together and set up a centre. Some go into related work, such as counselling, or are involved in a variety of educational settings. A few are working in prisons.

Further information is available from the British Association for Dramatherapists, PO Box 98, Kirkbymoorside, York, YO6 6EX, which holds regional and national conferences at which non-dramatherapists are welcomed and may join the association as associate members; and from The Central School of Speech and Drama, Embassy Theatre, Eton Avenue, London, NW3 3HY.

Deputy Director  
(ADMINISTRATION)

This is a pivotal appointment in the Polytechnic's transition to corporate status in April 1989. The Deputy Director (Administration) will play a major role in shaping and operating new systems of management and administration.

Duties will initially include those of Clerk to Governing Body and subsequently those of Company Secretary. Particular responsibilities will also involve the oversight of a range of centralised functions including the Information, Personnel and Student Services. Major contributions to both the management and general development of the Polytechnic will be expected.

The appointment will be effective from 1 April 1988 at a salary of at least £32,000 p.a. (including London Weighting). National salary negotiations could result in a higher level of remuneration. It may be possible for living accommodation to be made available if required.

Closing date: Monday 4th January 1987.

Application forms and further particulars:  
The Head of Personnel Services,  
Middlesex Polytechnic, Queensway, Enfield,  
Middlesex EN3 4SF.

Middlesex Polytechnic

## HEALTH CARE

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£11,403 - £13,215 (£11,655 - £13,506 from February 1988)

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exercise your imagination and proven flair. Full support and supervision is available whenever you need it and opportunities for further training in Berkshire are second-to-none.

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If your interest lies in Mental Health and your 4+ years' post-qualification experience is relevant, find out more.

Contact John Fader, Principal Social Worker at Wexham Park Hospital, on Slough (0753) 34567 ext 4080.

Application forms can also be obtained from the Personnel Section, Social Services Department, Shire Hall, Sharnfield Park, Reading RG2 9JH.

Tel: Reading (0734) 875444 ext 4846.  
Closing date: 21st December 1987

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\*Includes London Weighting

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designate  
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Please write for full details and Annual Report to Hugh Faulkner, Asthma Research Council, 300 Upper Street, London N1 2XX (marked 'Personal').

## Retired Executives

Help the Aged is undertaking a wide variety of ambitious projects to benefit the elderly throughout the U.K. We are especially interested in existing volunteers with 2 or 3 days a week available to become actively involved in our Community Alarms and Transport Campaigns at a local level.

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If available, a CV would be most helpful. Interviews locally.

Help the Aged

150-151



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## PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

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Please write with your work history to Ruth Jameson at AMI Middle East Services Ltd, 7/9 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1EE or telephone 01-409 1680/01-839 3812.

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Further information and application form from: Mr. R. F. Wyle, Director of Nursing Services (Mental Health and Geriatric), Board of Health, La Vierge, St Martin, Guernsey, Channel Islands.

Closing date: December 15, 1987.

(48181)

WE ARE LOOKING FOR  
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The Nursing home is part of an expanding group of specialist homes in Kent and East Sussex and the manager of each home reports directly to Kent Office Senior Management.

Some knowledge of Budget Control would be an advantage as would previous management experience.

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Please write or telephone for application form and job description to Gable Croft Ltd., 135 Ashburnham Rd., Hastings. East Sussex TN35 5JH. Telephone 0424 446629.

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for  
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Clifton Avenue, Belmont, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5PY

Salary scale £17,516-£28,214 inc., or appropriate Senior Medical Staff rates

The Thames Cancer Registry is concerned with collection and dissemination of data on all cancer patients in its area. It is the third largest cancer registry in the world, covering a third of the population of England and Wales. Its services are used both in the UK and abroad. The Registry has close links with the Royal Marsden Hospital and the Institute of Cancer Research in the University of London.

The successful candidate will have managerial responsibility for the Registry and will be responsible for maintaining and developing the system of registration and for maximising the use of the data for medical research.

Applicants should have a strong background of statistics and computing. Experience in epidemiology would be an advantage.

Informal enquiries are welcomed by Professor Chamberlain, Medical Director, telephone 01-643 8981 ext. 283. For an application form and further details, please write to Barbara Jeffs, Director of Personnel, The Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6JJ. Tel: 01-352 8171 ext. 471. Closing date: 14th December 1987.

## Social Worker

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If you have a contribution to make to community caring in Cumbria, we would like to hear from you. For informal discussion, please telephone Workington (0900) 4644 and speak to Derek Cookin.

Further details and application forms from Operational Manager (Allerdale), Social Services Department, Park Lane, Workington CA14 2BZ.

Closing date for applications 15th December 1987.

Post open to both men and women.

(C3351)

Cumbria

01-481 4481

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

## Corporate Tax

Although our Corporate Tax Department has expanded rapidly in the last three years—now comprising 7 partners and 17 principals—work pressures are still severe. We are therefore looking to people from a wide range of backgrounds for further help.

You may already be a specialist in this type of work within a legal or non legal environment. Alternatively you may be looking to get into this intellectually stimulating and demanding field.

The work is diverse and the Department handles a wide range of corporate tax work including advising on the tax aspects of buying and selling shares or businesses, raising finance in the UK and on the international bond market; listings on the Stock Exchange or Unlisted Securities Market; share option and incentive schemes; takeovers, mergers and reorganisations; off-shore investment funds and international tax planning.

You will work directly for clients and will come into contact with a broad cross section of the people in the firm advising them on the tax aspects of the matters they are handling.

As much support and guidance as you require is provided through contact with partners, senior people and peers in the Department, by in house training and by a well developed know-how system.

Two members of the Department are now working in our New York office, and prospects for working abroad are good.

If you would like to discuss this further please contact Alizoun Dickinson on 01-606-7080 on Extension 2650 or you may wish to send a CV to our Senior Tax Partner:

Jeremy Skinner,  
Linklaters & Paines,  
Barrington House,  
59-67 Gresham Street,  
London EC2V 7JA.

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## LEGAL SELECTION

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## TECHNICAL

The following vacancies exist in the busy Surveyors Section of our Housing and Estates Department. This section is responsible for the management of all technical, administrative and financial aspects of Capital Repair Budgets in excess of £3 million per annum. The work includes all major programmed maintenance; improvement and alteration works including the preparation of drawings; specifications; tenders and contract documentation; site supervision and the agreement of final accounts for contracts up to £300,000 in value.

## Surveyors

£11,403-£12,138 p.a. inc.

Candidates should have had several years experience in the preparation and administration of building contracts and preferably be qualified to Part II RICS Building Surveying or hold an HNC in Building. A sound working knowledge of the current Building Regulations is essential.

## Clerk of Works

£10,299-£10,980 p.a. inc.

The successful candidate will assist with the management of the 10 year programme of maintenance and improvement of the Council's housing stock. In addition, duties will involve supervision of the maintenance of other Council properties.

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A current driving licence and personal transport for both of these posts are essential for which an allowance is payable.

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For job description and application forms please contact the Personnel Section, Three Rivers District Council, 17/23 High Street, Rickmansworth, Herts. Telephone (0923) 776511 ext. 117. Closing date for applications is 11 December 1987.

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APPLICATION FORMS, to be returned by 11th December, and further details, are available from the Personnel Officer, Personnel Services, Town Hall, Bolton BL1 1RU (Tel Bolton 391632). Registered Disabled Persons are invited to apply. Trade Union Membership is a condition of service.

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## Using forged cheque is theft of debt

Chan Man-sin v The Queen

Before Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Ackner, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, Sir John Stephenson and Sir Edward Eveleigh

[Judgment November 30]

A person who drew, presented and negotiated a forged cheque committed theft of a chose in action, namely the debt owed by the bank to its customer, even though as against its customer the bank was not entitled to debit the customer's account with that amount.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in dismissing an appeal by the appellant, Chan Man-sin, from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong on May 30, 1986, of his application for leave to appeal against his conviction on December 9, 1985, of 10 charges of theft.

Section 2(1) of the Theft Ordinance provides: "A person commits theft if he dishonestly appropriates property belonging to another with the intention of permanently depriving the other of it..."

Section 4(1) provides: "Any assumption by a person of the rights of an owner amounts to an appropriation..."

Mr Desmond Keane, QC and Mr Stephen Silman for the appellant; Mr Daniel Marsh, Senior Assistant Crown Prosecutor, Hong Kong, and Mr G. J. X. McCoy (of counsel, any New Zealand Bars) for the Crown.

LORD OLIVER, delivering

the judgment of the Board, said that the appellant was at all material times an account for Hunter Corporation Ltd and Merit Investment Co Inc which maintained bank accounts in Hong Kong with the Standard Chartered Bank Ltd.

By means of five forged cheques drawn on Merit's account he withdrew sums totalling HK\$2,750,647 and caused them to be deposited in his personal bank account. As a result Merit's account became overdrawn but it had arranged a facility with the bank and the limit was not exceeded.

By means of five further forged cheques the appellant withdrew from Hunter's account sums totalling HK\$2,022,392 which he caused to be deposited to the credit of the account of a business of which he was the sole proprietor. Hunter had also arranged a facility with the bank and the withdrawals did not cause the limit to be exceeded.

The appellant was charged with theft of choses in action and convicted. The Court of Appeal of Hong Kong dismissed his application for leave to appeal against his convictions.

The argument for the appellant was that a bank was not entitled in law, as against its customer, to debit the customer's account with the amount of any cheque which the bank had made in fact, any authority from the customer to honour.

Thus, it was said, if the bank

honoured a forged cheque and debited the customer's account accordingly, the transaction was a nullity as a matter of law so far as the customer was concerned and the customer, on discovering the unauthorized debit to his account, was entitled to insist upon its being reversed.

For that proposition reliance was, quite rightly placed upon *Tai Hing Cotton Mill Ltd v Liu Chong Hing Bank Ltd* (1986) AC 80. The appellant argued that the presentation of the ten forged cheques produced, as a matter of legal reality, no diminution of the credit balances of the companies. The bank simply made unauthorized debits to their accounts which they were entitled to have reversed upon demand. Thus the appellant could not have been guilty of theft of Merit's or Hunter's choses in action.

The Theft Ordinance of Hong Kong followed, in all respects, the provisions of the English Theft Act 1968. It was not disputed that the debt due to the customer, from his banker was a chose in action capable of being stolen, and that equally applied to the sum which a customer was entitled to overdraw under contractual arrangements which he had made with the bank although strictly the chose in action was the benefit of the bank.

It was argued that, since as between the customer and the bank an unauthorized debit entry in the customer's account was a mere nullity, the customer was deprived of nothing and

therefore there had been no appropriation.

The appellant's argument entirely ignored the artificial definition of appropriation contained in section 4(1) of the Ordinance. The owner of the chose in action consisting of a credit with his bank or a contractual right to draw on an account, had, clearly, the right as owner to draw by means of a properly completed negotiable instrument or order to pay and one who drew, presented and negotiated a cheque on a bank account was assuming the rights of the owner of the credit in the account or (as the case might be) of the pre-negotiated right to draw on the account up to the agreed figure.

The transactions initiated and carried through by the appellant constituted an assumption of the rights of the owner and, consequently, an appropriation. It was unnecessary, for present purposes, to determine whether the forged cheques or when the transactions were completed by the making of consequential entries in the bank accounts of the companies and the appellant or his business respectively.

It was entirely immaterial that the end result of the transaction might be a legal nullity for it was not the result, into section 4(1) any requirement that the assumption of rights there envisaged should have a legally efficacious result.

Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be dismissed.

Solicitors: Philip Conway Thomas & Co; Macfarlanes.

Cellard (Inspector of Taxes) v Mining and Industrial Holdings Ltd

Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Nicholls

[Judgment November 25]

Owing to a legislative gap in the statutory provisions that introduced advanced corporation tax (ACT), a company that had both United Kingdom and foreign income was entitled to calculate its corporation tax liability taking credit for double taxation relief (DTR) before setting off any ACT. The restriction on a company's power to allocate ACT, in section 100(6) of the Finance Act 1972, did not apply to prevent the company from setting off ACT against its reduced global corporation tax liability.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a decision of Mr Justice Walton (*The Times* April 2, 1986, (1986) STC 230) that a special commissioner's determination allowing a claim for corporation tax relief by the taxpayer company, Mining and Industrial Holdings Ltd, was correct.

Section 100(6) of the 1972 Act was amended by section 53 of the Finance Act 1974.

The taxpayer company carried on the business of a mining finance house in the UK. Its profits for its 1980 accounting period consisted of income from UK sources and non-control and control dividends subject to foreign tax. It had paid ACT by reference to dividends of £2.2 million during that period.

It claimed that in computing

its corporation tax liability it was, by virtue of the provisions of section 501 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 and section 85(1) of the Finance Act 1972, entitled first to make deductions for DTR in respect of foreign taxes and then to set off ACT against its remaining corporation tax liability.

Mr Stephen Oliver, QC and Mr Alan Moses for the Crown; Mr Andrew Park, QC, for the taxpayer company.

LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appeal was an esoteric corner of the tax field concerning the interaction of DTR and ACT.

Part XVIII of the 1970 Act was concerned with DTR: sections 501 together with 503 setting out the manner in which it was to be given. Section 505 set a limit on the amount of the credit for foreign tax that was to be allowed.

ACT was introduced by Part V of the Finance Act 1972. Thereby where a company paid a dividend it became liable to pay an amount of ACT. Section 85(1) provided for ACT to be set against a company's corporation tax liability on its income. Section 100 was concerned with DTR.

Section 85 envisaged a simple set-off of ACT against a company's overall liability to corporation tax and made no provision for the set-off to be allocated to the tax attributable to any particular item of income.

Section 100(6) empowered a company to make such an allocation and spelt out the consequence of such an allocation.

The closing words of section 100(6) set a limit on the amount of ACT which might be allocated "under this subsection". Thus, unambiguously, the ambit of those closing words was confined to limiting what could be done by way of allocation by a company when exercising the power conferred on it by that subsection.

The Crown's case was that the set-off for ACT was to be made before deducting DTR. On that basis it was said, and assuming that the taxpayer company made an allocation of ACT under section 100(6) in the manner most favourable to itself, its ultimate corporation tax liability was £254,137.

Moreover, the Crown said, if a company did not make an allocation under section 100(6), the ACT fell to be allocated to the various classes of income *pro rata* to the "relevant income" as defined in section 100(3) but subject always to the limitation in section 505 of the 1970 Act to a rate of 50 per cent.

The taxpayer company's computation, on the other hand, based on deduction of DTR — limited by section 505 of the 1970 Act to a rate of 50 per cent — before ACT set-off, resulted in no liability to corporation tax.

The Crown argued that its appeal had to fail unless on the true construction of section 100(6) a *pro rata* allocation of ACT was to be implied in the absence of any allocation having been duly made by the taxpayer company under the subsection.

In support of its contention for that construction of section 100(6), the Crown relied on two points. First, if the implication for which it contended was not made then the subsection was superfluous because there would be no circumstances in which it would be to a company's advantage to make an allocation.

Second, on the taxpayer company's construction, a com-

pany would be at liberty to opt out of the restriction in section 100(6) that DTR did not result in an excessive set-off of ACT. The taxpayer company's argument, it was said, resulted in it escaping altogether from tax on its UK income.

Those points made a formidable case for the Crown. The court was, moreover, reluctant to construe the 1972 Act in such a way as to give little or no purpose to section 100(6).

However, the insuperable obstacle confronting the Crown was that, unequivocally, section 100(6) conferred a power of allocation on a taxpayer and there was nothing to indicate what Parliament intended the position to be if a taxpayer chose not to make an allocation.

Courts were increasingly robust in constraining statutes and *casus omissus* was not a satisfactory basis for a decision. But the legislative gap which the Crown sought to fill by a process of necessary implication was simply too big.

There was no provision in the 1972 Act on what impact ACT should have on the calculation of the section 505 ceiling if the taxpayer company did not make an allocation under section 100(6).

That being so, the taxpayer company was entitled to calculate its section 505 ceiling without setting off any ACT against corporation tax attributable to "relevant income" and it was entitled also, having deducted its credits for foreign taxes, then to set ACT against its resultant reduced global corporation tax liability.

Before Mr Justice Walton the Crown had unsuccessfully contended that section 100(6) conferred a duty and not merely a power on a company to allocate. The court agreed with the judge's decision on that point.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Freshfields.

## Protecting secure tenancy

Appleton v Aspin and Others

Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Nourse

[Judgment November 19]

Where a landlord had agreed to sell premises with vacant possession and a tenant of the premises under a protected tenancy had, at the same moment, agreed with the purchaser not to seek to enforce against him any right of possession or occupation, the court could not refuse to grant the purchaser possession of the premises as against the tenant unless the conditions in section 98(1) of the Rent Act 1977 were satisfied.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the tenant, Mrs Ivy Charlotte Plane, from Mr Justice Millett who on April 15 had granted the purchaser, Mr John Appleton, possession of premises of which she was tenant under a protected tenancy and the freehold of which he had bought from the landlord, Mrs Norma Ivy Maud Aspin.

Mr John Stevenson for the tenant; Mr David Iwi for the purchaser.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that in *Dudley and District Building Society v Enderby* (1949) Ch 707, the court had granted mortgages possession of premises against a tenant who, as against the mortgagee, was a protected tenant but whose tenancy had been granted in contravention of an express provision of the mortgage and without the mortgagee's knowledge. The court held that there was no contractual relationship between the mortgages and the tenant and that they were not his landlords.

In those circumstances it could not have been the intention of Parliament that mortgages should not be able to recover possession against such a tenant. The members of the court had, however, expressed their views much more widely than was necessary for the decision of that case, and they should not be taken as necessarily applying to other situations.

The purchaser was not merely an intending purchaser of the premises at the time of the agreement with the tenant; he

was an actual purchaser, to whom the equitable interest in the property had passed, and could, if properly, have been described as the tenant's landlord at that moment. The instant case was therefore to be distinguished from the *Dudley* case.

The fact that the tenant could have assigned her tenancy to the purchaser before he had agreed to purchase the freehold, and that if she had done so he would be entitled to possession, did not assist the purchaser. The agreement which they had in fact entered could not be taken as an agreement to an assignment which did not extinguish the tenancy.

The appeal should be allowed. His Lordship recognized that that resulted in hardship to the purchaser, but that was not something which could be taken into account in defining the scope of section 98(1).

Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Purchas agreed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Saint for Rogers & Norton, Norwich; Bazley White & Co.

## Medicine demand was blackmail

Regina v Evans (Ronald)

Before Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Kenneth Jones and Mr Justice Leonard

[Judgment November 30]

A man in severe pain from an osteo-arthritic hip, who threatened to shoot a doctor if he did not give an injection of morphine, was guilty of blackmail, contrary to section 21 of the Theft Act 1968.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by Ronald Henry George Evans, aged 53, of Collingwood Road, Hillingdon, London, from conviction at Isleworth Crown Court (Judge Holden and a jury) on a count charging that, with a view to gain for himself or with intent to cause loss to another, he made a demand with menaces upon Dr Hugh Cecil Dias for a quantity of a controlled drug. He was sentenced to four months' imprisonment suspended for two years.

Mr H. R. J. Griffiths, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appeal; Mr P. A. M. Clark for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE KENNETH JONES, giving the judgment of

the court, said that the appellant was wounded in the hip in 1951 and became increasingly crippled by osteo-arthritis. A month after the events giving rise to the prosecution he underwent a hip replacement operation.

One night in August 1986 he summoned a deputation doctor, escorted him into the living room and, after a brief conversation, according to the doctor, suddenly pulled out a black handgun, pointed it at the doctor and told him he would shoot if not given an injection of morphine.

The doctor explained that he did not carry morphine but offered a pethidine injection, which the appellant accepted. At the close of prosecution evidence Mr Griffiths submitted that there was no case to answer because blackmail was not disclosed since the words "with a view to gain for himself or with intent to cause loss to another" could be construed only as extending to gain or loss in money or other property. The judge ruled that there was a case.

On appeal Mr Griffiths made a similar submission, that no economic interest was involved

either in gain for the appellant or loss to the doctor.

His Lordship said that it might be that difficulty had arisen in the case by importing into the Act words not there.

What had to be established was that the demand was made with a view to gain for the appellant. Those words had to be viewed by reference to the terms of section 34(2): "For the purposes of this Act — (a) 'gain' and 'loss' are to be construed as extending only to gain or loss in money or other property... and — (i) 'gain' includes a gain by keeping what one has, as well as a gain by getting what one has not..."

It seemed difficult if not impossible to argue that the liquid which constituted the substance which was injected into the appellant's body was not property. It clearly was.

The next question would be whether the appellant got the drug, that admittedly being something he did not have before making the demand. Only one answer was possible — Yes.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Isleworth.

## Separate taxation

Ward-Stemp v Griffin

(Inspector of Taxes)

To be valid and effective an election by a husband and wife for the separate taxation of the wife's earnings had, in accordance with section 23 of the Finance Act 1971, to be made in the "form and manner" prescribed by the Revenue. Unless the mandatory provisions of subsection (2) were strictly complied with, a wife's income was to be treated under section 37 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 as being the income of her husband.

Mr Justice Walton so held in the Chancery Division on November 27 when dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Anthony Ward-Stemp, from the determination of Croydon General Commissioners that no valid election for separate taxation of his wife's earnings had ever been made.

HIS LORDSHIP said that section 23(2) of the 1971 Act provided that an election "must be made in such form and manner as the Board may prescribe". The word "must" there used was mandatory and not directory.

It was not enough for the taxpayer to establish that his wife had received the appropriate form and had informed all those concerned that they both wanted separate taxation but had failed to return the form duly completed.

The Revenue was run on various forms of various descriptions which had to be filled in by the person concerned: chaos would otherwise ensue. It was possible that a letter by a husband and wife to the Revenue requesting separate taxation might give rise to their having an arguable case. That had not happened here.

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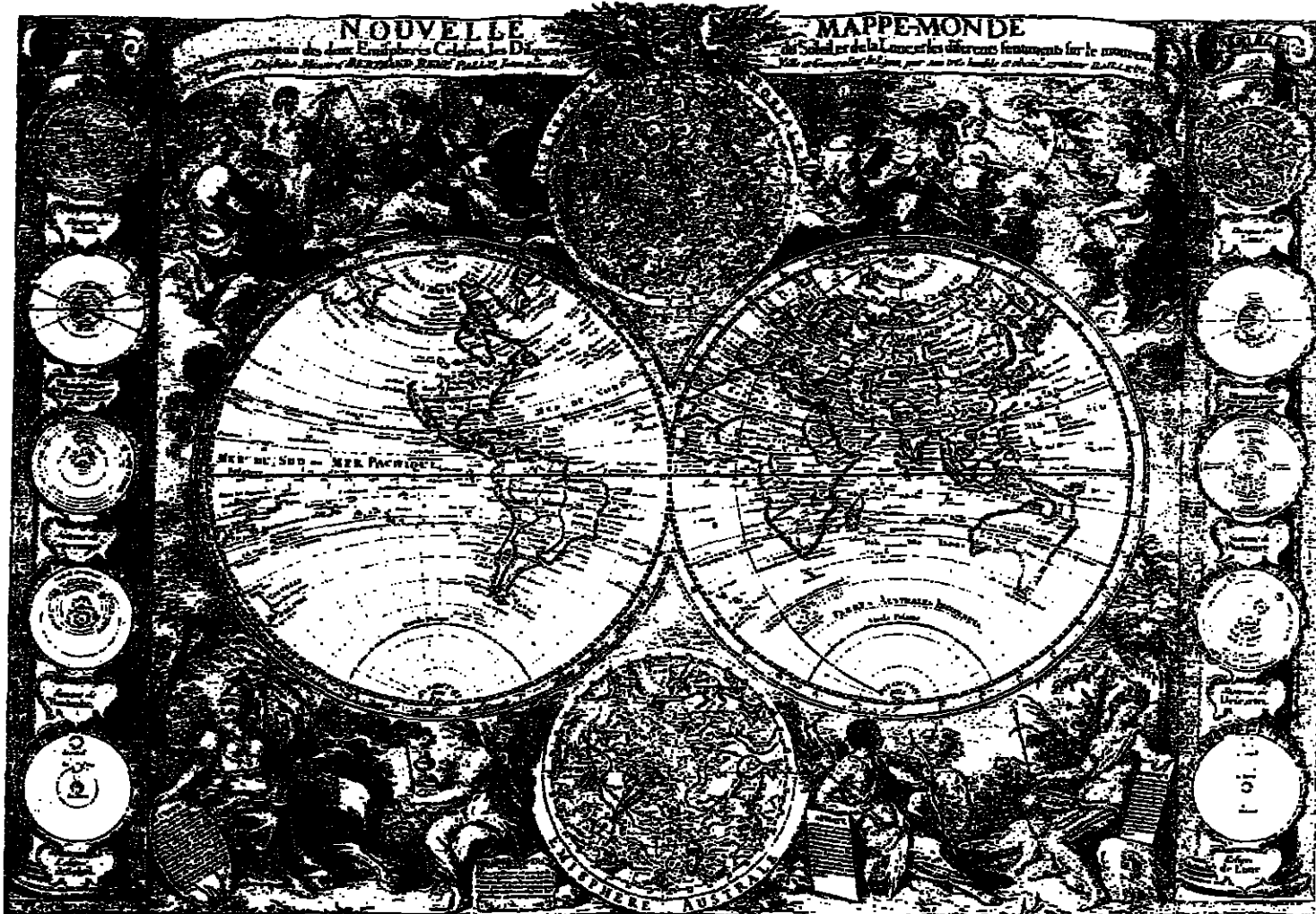
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For further details and an application form (to be returned by 11 January 1988) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

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The successful candidate will probably have about 5 years' post-qualification experience in a similar field, either with an international law firm or in a financial services organisation.

Salary according to age and experience.

Applications will be treated in strict confidence and should be forwarded to Colin Barrow, Director - Funds, at E D & F Man International Ltd, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3.

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Peter Morley-Jacob,  
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SLAUGHTER AND MAY

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The Lord Chancellor invites applications as a Deputy Judge Advocate in the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Forces. Candidates must be members of the Bar of England and Wales or Northern Ireland, or a member of the Faculty of Advocates, of not less than five years standing.

A person appointed as a Deputy Judge Advocate will in due course be considered for appointment as an Assistant Judge Advocate General. The present salary of a Deputy Judge Advocate is £17,336 - £23,534 plus £1,550 Inner London Weighting. The salary of an Assistant Judge Advocate General is £24,765 - £28,215 plus £1,550 Inner London Weighting.

Assistant Judge Advocates General with suitable experience may be invited to sit in the Crown Court as Assistant Recorders and considered for appointment as Recorders. Appointment as a Deputy Judge Advocate would not require a member of the Bar who is already a Recorder or Assistant Recorder to relinquish that appointment.

A sound knowledge of criminal law and the law of evidence and experience of criminal court practice is essential. Acquaintance with service life and traditions, and some previous experience of court-martial is an advantage. Applicants must be prepared to serve overseas.

Applications should be submitted not later than 28 December 1987 to Miss M A Clegg, Lord Chancellor's Department, Travel House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3BT. Application forms will be provided on request to that address, or by telephone to 01-219 8557/8.

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One of the positions will have a marketing bias although the Bank is prepared to be flexible in its approach to the employment of candidates for this team.

Salaries will be in the range of £16,318 - £18,974 plus a London Weighting Allowance of £3,000 and the usual banking benefits.

If you would like to be considered for one of these positions, please telephone Simon Lipson or Lucy Boyd, both experienced Lawyers, on 01 222 8866/4243 (24 hours) for an informal discussion, or write to them at the address below.

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STUART FAIRES,  
Practice Manager,  
Coole & Haddock  
with Cotchings,  
14 Carfax Horsham,  
West Sussex RH12 1DZ

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Please apply, with CV, to: The Company Secretary, Pioneer Concrete (Holdings) Limited, Pioneer House, 55-60 Northolt Road, South Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 0EY.

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Applicants are invited to contact Alistair Allan either by telephone or in writing to the address below.

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British Credit Trust



All-British team gearing their car to the mobile hell of the Paris to Dakar rally

# Bullet-proof and built to last

By Andrew Longmore

It is said that the ideal car for the Paris to Dakar rally would be a cross between a high speed production saloon and a tank. The T88 Metro Raider, which will carry the hopes of the all-British team of Barry Lee and Ted Toleman on next year's event, which starts on January 1, is neither of those, but it is built to last just the same.

The car has not been designed so much as crafted. It began life as a Metro 684 but has been modified to include a Rover 3.9-litre engine, a strengthened suspension system in the rear and has been lengthened by 10 inches to accommodate 60 gallons of fuel. Every conceivable part has been cooled and there is even a piece from the metal workshop ladder in there somewhere.

"I've built some tough cars in my time," Lee said. "But I have to admit that until I experienced it for myself last year nothing I had built would have lasted two days on the Paris-Dakar. We've put all we learned from last time into this. It's built like a brick outhouse."

It is quite a swift brick outhouse, though. The Metro has a top speed of 122mph and, with minimal chassis and carbon-fibre bodywork, it weighs just 1,400 kilograms. It is noisy, bumpy and for the 21 days of the rally will be a mobile hell. Still, as Lee pronounced after its first breaking-in session at the GM truck proving ground in Bedford last weekend, it is "bullet-proof" and for driving 8,000



Out of France, into Africa: Ted Toleman (left) and Barry Lee beside their T88 Metro Raider (Photograph: Ivor Leonard)

miles across the plains and deserts of North Africa, that is what matters.

Lee, four times world hotrod champion, and Toleman — businessman, former Formula One team boss, powerboat champion, world record holder and mastermind of the first Virgin Atlantic Challenge — are an unlikely combination, but they have established a firm relationship based on a

mutual love of speed, an obsession with the Paris to Dakar and a shared experience. Last year, after their car had been forced out of the rally in North Africa, Lee spent an uncomfortably long time in an Algerian jail on currency charges and was only freed by Toleman in a last-minute rescue.

Apart from the two drivers, the team, which is sponsored

by Shell, Lohr, Michelin and Gieves and Hawkes, will include three engineers following the rally in a specially-designed Iveco truck and four others in the rally aircraft.

"We learned last year not to run too hard," Lee said. "If you have a problem, you can take your time about it. You have to learn this event slowly."

Compared to the vast funds put into their cars by teams such as Peugeot and Mitsubishi, the £150,000 budget of the British team is a grain of sand in the desert. They are still looking for another British backer. The realistic aim is to reach Dakar in one piece; the dream is to win. But whatever happens, Lee says: "I'll be taking the right amount of money this time."

## JUDO

### Adams is back for Olympic gold bid

By Nicolas Soames

At the age of 29, Neil Adams, Britain's most successful judo fighter, is coming out of retirement in a last attempt to win an Olympic gold medal, the one title that has eluded him so far.

He became the first Briton to win a world championship when he armlocked Jiro Kase in a famous manoeuvre in Maastricht in 1981, and he was five senior European titles, with three in a row in 1983, 1984, 1985. But although he reached the Olympic final twice in a row, he was stopped on both occasions from taking the ultimate prize in judo.

"It is the one title I haven't won, and it is the big one," Adams said. For the past year he has been teaching at one of the premier clubs in Paris, the Racing Club de France.

"When I retired in 1986, I really felt I had finished. I had had enough of competition, and I really wasn't enjoying my judo. But away from the pressure of regular competition, I have found renewed interest. And when I look at the 78-kilo category, both at European and world level, I don't think they are beyond reach."

The news will come as a surprise to the sports world, whose last sight of Adams was the rather ignominious defeat in the British Open in 1986 by the French champion, Jean-Michel Bertelet.

But to those who have seen Adams teach and train in Paris it was evident that much of the old spark and skill had been regenerated. On one occasion, when he was taking a line-up of 10 opponents one after the other in a public demonstration — where an easy informality generally prevails — a few of the tougher black belts decided to really have a go in an attempt to embarrass Adams. However, he turned the tables with some devastating throws and armlocks.

Adams, however, will not have an automatic ticket to the Olympics. "I am afraid I must prove that he still has the hunger to win in competition," the British men's team manager, Arthur Mapp, said. His team has just returned with one silver and two bronze medals from the world championships.

Adams is to return to England in the New Year, where he will train at the Badminton, his old club, and return to teach at the Racing Club for five days each month. In fact, he will be first seen on the competition mat in France, fighting for the Racing Club in January 16 in the French national team championships.

## Resuscitation of a relic for the new generation

Sports writers of The Times present books of 1987. Today: REX BELLAMY on the best from the world of tennis.



### SPORTS BOOKS OF THE YEAR

illustrated book carries what might be described as a sub-subtitle: The Final Verdict. This refers to the fact that a work first published in 1977 is now in its third edition and covers Wimbledon's first 100 championships and the author's entire career as a BBC commentator. The pre-Maskell voice of Wimbledon has, in short, said and written what may be his last words on the subject.

Robertson has done everything he can — and there are few people who could do more to make this edition "an accurate chronicle and a trustworthy reference book", as he puts it. His story has been checked, corrected, revised and updated. Moreover, I can no longer leave him about the absence of an index.

John Parsons, a beaver-like reporter who is never at a loss for a few thousand words (spoken or written), has been joined by two highly experienced photographers, Tommy Hindley and Eamonn McCabe, in producing Wimbledon's beautifully-illustrated annual. This is the fifth: a rewarding browse for those who missed the 1987 championships or would like to enjoy the tournament again, at leisure.

● *Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Racquets, and Fives*, from the Badminton Library of Sports and Pastimes (Ashford Press, 491 pages, £16.95).  
● *Wimbledon, Centre Court of the Game*, by Max Robertson (BBC Books, 500 pages, £18.95).  
● *The Championships, Wimbledon, the official 1987 annual*, by John Parsons (Aurum Press, £12.95).

## VOLLEYBALL

### Sheffield objective

The news that Sheffield is to host the 1991 World Student Games will give British volleyball the chance to show how far it has recently progressed. George Butman, the national director of the English Volleyball Association, said yesterday: "It gives us a three-year chance to build up a British team. Now is the time to start planning — we really should have started after the World Student Games in 1985 and in 1986 and in 1987 and in 1988 and in 1989 and in 1990 and in 1991 and in 1992 and in 1993 and in 1994 and in 1995 and in 1996 and in 1997 and in 1998 and in 1999 and in 2000 and in 2001 and in 2002 and in 2003 and in 2004 and in 2005 and in 2006 and in 2007 and in 2008 and in 2009 and in 2010 and in 2011 and in 2012 and in 2013 and in 2014 and in 2015 and in 2016 and in 2017 and in 2018 and in 2019 and in 2020 and in 2021 and in 2022 and in 2023 and in 2024 and in 2025 and in 2026 and in 2027 and in 2028 and in 2029 and in 2030 and in 2031 and in 2032 and in 2033 and in 2034 and in 2035 and in 2036 and in 2037 and in 2038 and in 2039 and in 2040 and in 2041 and in 2042 and in 2043 and in 2044 and in 2045 and in 2046 and in 2047 and in 2048 and in 2049 and in 2050 and in 2051 and in 2052 and in 2053 and in 2054 and in 2055 and in 2056 and in 2057 and in 2058 and in 2059 and in 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# Talented Trexford on right course

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Following that fine victory on the course 17 days ago, Trexford is now named to win the BBC Radio Cambridge Handicap Chase at Huntingdon.

A year ago, his fall at the last fence of the Netherkelly Novices Chase, with the race at his mercy, marred what otherwise would have been a perfect day for trainer Simon Sainsbury, who won both of the other chases on the programme with Western Sunset and Care.

It was a fall which was destined to ruin Trexford's confidence to such an extent that he was pulled up in both his subsequent races. However, time can be a great healer.

Given the summer to recover, Trexford has bounced back better than ever.

First time out, at Ludlow, he was within a whisker of beating Kittling.

Next time out he did so to the tune of 10 lengths, showing how much he had come on from that initial outing.

Splitting the two on that occasion was the hot favourite, Willy Yeoman, who had run so well behind Indamodley at Stratford first time out.

With Indamodley then winning again at Newbury, that form has a pretty sound look

about it and Trexford should now be capable of giving weight and a beating to three rivals even though a penalty has taken his burden to 12st 3lb.

When they met before Silent Surrender was 40 lengths in arrears. Even on a stone better terms he should not lose that gap.

A far greater threat is posed by Ballima, who won similar but shorter races at Plumpton and Lingfield last season. However, Forster has a key line on him through another of his and Mr Sainsbury's horses Belgrave Lad, who dished out a 15 length beating to Ballima at Plumpton in the Autumn.

Now that the decision has been taken not to try to win the Peterborough Chase a second time with Western Sunset, the way looks much easier for Very Promising to regain the winning trail. In a handicap he would be meeting his two opponents on much worse terms.

Last time out at Cheltenham, a bad mistake at the 11th fence in the Mackeson Gold Cup put pay to whatever chance he had of winning.

Before that he had beaten the two mile champion, Pearlyman, and Western Sunset in a conditions event at Devon and Exeter and he looks to have an easy task this afternoon, especially as

Townley Stone had such a crumpling fall at Wetherby first time out.

Mountain Crash, who is unbeaten in his last four races — two last season, can continue the good work by winning the Glen International Lady Riders Only Handicap Hurdle on a day when stable companion Yabis makes his eagerly-awaited debut over fences in the Truro Novices Chase at Newton Abbot.

Over hurdles, he was superior to Quickstep so much will depend on how they have adapted. My information is that Quickstep has looked a natural at home and he is just preferred.



Stainton Gypsy (Karen Greenhalgh up) under orders for Carlisle on Thursday when he becomes the first runner for brave new trainer, Jonathan Haynes (Photograph: Barry Greenwood)

## Unwavering belief the key as Haynes scales the highest mountain

By George Rae

Nothing stirs the heart as surely as the triumph of will over adversity. Eight years ago, Jonathan Haynes, then a promising National Hunt jockey, broke his back in a fall from the hurdler Shiny Step at Southwell and, paralysed from the chest down, has been confined to a wheelchair since.

Sustained by the belief that he still had an active part to play in racing, Haynes fought the limitations of his disability and on Thursday will see the proof of his success when Stainton Gypsy becomes his first runner as a trainer in his new stable at Carlisle.

Haynes moved to the 12-acre small-holding he shares with his fiancée, Karen Greenhalgh, in 1982. Karen, a willing labour force, helps tend the sheep and cows but now finds her time dominated by the most important inmate of all, Stainton Gypsy.

We put a lot of time and effort into this place," Haynes says. "But racing was always there, nagging at me."

"Then a couple of months ago the chance to buy Stainton Gypsy came up and I thought, 'Why not?' So I went ahead and the Jockey Club granted me a permit to train. It's expensive, most of our money is tied up in him, but it's worth the price to be involved again."

Stainton Gypsy, a five-year-old gelding formerly trained by Dudley Moffatt, ran three times on the Flat and finished fifth over hurdles on his only start over jumps two seasons ago.

"Karen looks after him mostly, but two other lads drop in and help with the riding out. I've had nine winners on the Flat and just ridden my first winner, Chaparrone, over jumps. So I was starting to get established. I was only 19 when it happened."

The time in hospital gave him the opportunity to collect his thoughts. "When I came out, I had to take stock, find out just what I was capable of. The hardest thing to come to terms with was that I had lost my independence."

"I had to find a new life. I'd

tough to watch somebody have trouble with a job you could do in matter of seconds.

But that is a minor consideration against the presence of Stainton Gypsy, which has brought, 'I love to go racing when I can. Carlisle, Haydock, Sedgfield, the more local tracks, and now I go with a new outlook.

"I used to be just a racegoer but now I watch trainers and think 'I'll be doing that soon'. I think it has helped my attitude generally. I still get a bit of a lump in my throat when I watch jockeys riding, thinking I could have been one, but I feel much better having my own sense of involvement."

Haynes has also taken great pleasure in the trappings of training, having the horse's rug initially, planning who will ride, and having his colours — an eye-catching red with yellow cross-belts — registered.

"At least we'll be able to see him," he says, "even if they are at the back of the field."

"Nonsense, we're optimists," Karen replies, less a rebuke, you feel, than the declaration of a creed.

## Personal Everest no easier to climb

Haynes, who is based at picturesque Levens, a small village near Kendal, in Cumbria, is not the first to have to overcome serious injury in sport — ironically his gym teacher at the time, Jimmy Harris, was also disabled in a riding accident — but his personal Everest was no easier to climb simply because someone had been there before.

"The horse rolled on me, and at first I thought I had chest injuries," says Haynes, recalling the accident, "but it turned out I had broken my back and would never walk again. I was in hospital for 11 months, then I was in a wheelchair for 11 months. I had had nine winners on the Flat and just ridden my first winner, Chaparrone, over jumps. So I was starting to get established. I was only 19 when it happened."

The time in hospital gave him the opportunity to collect his thoughts. "When I came out, I had to take stock, find out just what I was capable of. The hardest thing to come to terms with was that I had lost my independence."

"I had to find a new life. I'd

## Hoping to afford another horse

Where, then, from here? "The best thing that could happen to me is to be able to afford another horse," he says. "I could have a horse and ride it, but this is an opportunity to climb up a few rungs again."

"Before I was an ex-jockey with only a past. Now I have a future."

## Rainbow Quest progeny in demand

Bloodstock Sales by Simon O'Loughlin

Marking the Newmarket December Sales, the only two foals on offer from the first crop of the Ar winner both made six figures last week and yesterday Jack Fisher's chestnut mare Pale Gold, in foal to Rainbow Quest, was sold for 175,000 guineas.

Wigan later paid 76,000 guineas on behalf of W. H. W. Wigan's Manor Stud's Chris Harper for the unraced three-year-old Taplow on Wood mare Taplow, in foal to Thatching.

Sophisticated Lady, a five-year-old full sister to the speedy Sisy and Sonoma, had a 210,000 guinea covering, and look sure to attract attention. But a high reserve lifted off interest and, without a single bid, she was sold for 200,000 guineas.

## Blackieft collapse

Scotland's top two-mile chaser, Blackieft, collapsed and died at the weekend from a rupture of an abdominal artery. John Wilson's eight-year-old was having his last major workout on Tuesday at Wetherby when he collapsed and died. Ayr racecourse prior to making his intended seasonal reappearance in the Tingle Creek Handicap Chase at Sandown this Saturday.

## Kelso results

Going: soft

1.25 (2m 10y) ch 1, MILITARY CROWN (M. J. Barry) 11-12; 2nd, John Goss (D. Nolan) 11-13; 3rd, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-14; 4th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-15; 5th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-16; 6th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-17; 7th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-18; 8th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-19; 9th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-20; 10th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-21; 11th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-22; 12th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-23; 13th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-24; 14th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-25; 15th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-26; 16th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-27; 17th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-28; 18th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-29; 19th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-30; 20th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 11-31; 21st, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-1; 22nd, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-2; 23rd, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-3; 24th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-4; 25th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-5; 26th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-6; 27th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-7; 28th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-8; 29th, The Duke (D. Nolan) 12-9; 30th, The Duke (D. 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## GOLF

# Shooting for £10m in the rosy tour garden of Europe

By Mitchell Platts  
Golf Correspondent

Professional golf in the 21st century was outlined yesterday by Ken Schofield, executive director of the reshaped Volvo tour, when he announced that a record £10 million will be on offer in Europe in 1988.

There has been a lot of talk about a "world tour", Schofield said. "My emphatic answer is that it will not happen. There will be no drastic realignment, certainly in the next decade or so, although, because of Europe's two successive Ryder Cup wins, I do see a shift of power.

"It is heartening already that Hord Hardin, chairman of the US Masters, has expressed the view that there will be a review of their selection procedure for the 1989 tournament. The best players in the world should be given more opportunities to play in the major championships. The conditions for entry to the three championships in America should be similar to those that the Royal and Ancient have for the Open Championship.

"The tours in America, Australia, Japan and here will continue, in my opinion, to be autonomous. I think it is no bad thing that the Royal and Ancient, the PGA and the PGA European tour have the voice and the vision to promote and protect the game."

Even so, there is still room for improvement in the communication system between the tours. For instance, Schofield was informed at the eleventh hour that the US PGA Championship had been moved back one week. He contained his fury, although it meant parting two previous back-to-back Swedish events so that the Benson and Hedges International had a television slot on August 4-7.

Schofield's strategy involves manipulating the calendar in order to keep sponsors happy. Inevitably, there are casualties and the Lawrence Batley International has ceased after five years. Batley was angered because he was asked to switch to another date.

**Trevino's feat stuns his rivals**  
La Quinta, California (AP) — A moment of stunned silence here was broken by Lee Trevino bounding about 17m in the air. The occasion, a hole in one worth \$175,000 (about £97,200), was the climax of Trevino's monopoly of the last nine holes in the two-day, 18-hole Skins Game at PGA West.

"It looked like a Rembrandt," Trevino, aged 47, said after watching his six-iron shot travel 167 yards into the cup. "When I hit it, I knew it was close. But never in my wildest dreams did I think it would go in." Neither did Arnold Palmer. "Can you believe it? It was on it all the way. Astounding," Palmer said. The last nine holes earned him \$285,000 (£158,000) (£174,000). "That's the second hole in one I've ever had," he said.

## 1988 EUROPEAN TOUR DATES

TBA: venue to be arranged  
March  
3-6: Moroccan Open, Marrakech  
10-13: Madrid Open, Santa Ponsa  
17-20: Barcelona Open, El Prat  
24-27: Dunhill Cup qualifying, TBA  
30 April-3: Barmen Open, Barmen  
April  
7-10: TBA  
14-17: Cannes Open, Cannes Mougins  
21-24: Madrid Open, Puerta de Hierro  
28 May-1: Portuguese Open, TBA  
May  
5-8: Epson Grand Prix, St Pierre  
12-15: Spanish Open, Pedernera  
19-22: Italian Open, Montecarlo  
27-30: Volvo PGA Championship, Wentworth  
June  
2-5: Dunhill British Masters, Woburn  
9-12: Wang National Pro-Am, Moor Park  
16-19: Belgian Open, TBA  
23-26: French Open, Chantilly  
29 July-2: Monte Carlo Open, Monte Carlo  
July  
6-9: Bell's Scottish Open, Gleneagles

14-17: Open Championship, Royal Lytham  
21-24: Dutch Open, Huisdunum  
28-31: Scandinavian Enterprise Open, Oslo  
August  
4-7: Benson and Hedges International, Luton  
11-14: P.M. Open, Flemings (Sweden)  
18-21: Carrolls Irish Open, Portlarnock  
25-28: German Open, Frankfurt  
September  
1-4: EEC European Open, Grand-sur-Saône (Switzerland)  
8-11: Panasonic European Open, Samsungdo  
15-18: Lancôme Trophy, St Nom la Breche  
22-25: German Masters, Stuttgart  
29-October 2: TBA  
October  
6-9: TBA  
13-16: TBA  
20-23: TBA  
27-30: Volvo Masters, TBA  
November  
3-6: TBA  
10-13: TBA  
17-20: TBA

Schofield, who on occasions pulls no punches, insisted: "Lawrence has been complaining since he joined us. It's very sad that we cannot accommodate the man, although it is my belief that EGP organizers of Lawrence's event will honour their obligation in 1988 and 1989 and supply a new sponsor."

Elsewhere everything in the European tour garden would appear to be rosy. The circuit now stretches a full nine months — it will be 12 months by 1990. Schofield claims — with the Moroccan Open bringing up the curtain from March 3 to 6. Thirteen of the 38 tournaments will be played in Great Britain and Ireland.

Three new championships — the Mallorca-Open de Balnears, the Biarritz Open and the Volvo Masters in Spain — are newcomers to the extended tour which continues through to late November. The Volvo Belgian Open and the German Masters were new arrivals in 1987.

Moreover, the sanctioning of a five-year corporate sponsorship with Volvo, which will start in 1988, provides ample evidence of the desire of major combines to advertise their wares by supporting a sport founded on integrity.

The most visible aspects of

Volvo's multi-faceted agreement will be their alliance in 1988 with the PGA Championship and the Order of Merit. Whyte and Mackay, sponsors of the PGA Championship since 1984, have opted out and Epson UK, custodians of the Order of Merit for two years, withdrew at the PGA's request to enable Volvo to take over.

Whyte and Mackay will, however, continue to support the Champions Challenge, which precedes the PGA Championship at Wentworth and has raised £12,000 last year for the tour's own charity. The Epson Grand Prix of Europe, a match-play event, will also continue at St Pierre, Chepstow.

"All in all it is a very healthy scene," Schofield said. "We have had a wonderful run since 1983, helped by the Ryder Cup and victories by Steve Ballesteros, Sandy Lyle and Nick Faldo in the Open Championship, but we must continue to take it quietly with a dogged and determined approach."

Schofield promised and delivered a £10 million package for 1988. The total in 1987 was £7,378,900. Only 10 seasons ago it was £1.2 million. This year the average prize-money was £211,000 for each tournament whereas in 1988 it will be £258,000.

**Norman win gains him top ranking**  
Melbourne (Reuters) — Greg Norman regained the world No. 1 ranking as he won his third Australian Open by a record 10 strokes yesterday, clinching his first tournament since February. The Australian showed he has recovered the style of a world champion, including the 1986 Open Championship, by destroying a strong field.

Norman's total of 273, 15 under par, broke the Royal Melbourne course record by five strokes. His winning margin over the second-placed Sandy Lyle of Britain, equals his best ever, achieved in the 1980 French Open. The victory, his first since the Australian Masters in February, lifted him back above Severiano Ballesteros in the world rankings. "It has been a long, tough year since the Australian Masters and a lot of people have doubted me in the Press," Norman said. "It's nice to be back there now."

The Australian's victory margin beat the previous Australian Open record of eight shots set by the American, Jack Nicklaus, in Hobart in 1971. Lyle struggled for 10 holes before returning four consecutive birdies, but he had no chance of catching Norman, who led by seven strokes overnight.

**FOOTBALL**  
By Simon O'Hagan  
The old order in European football, in the form of Juventus and Barcelona, is beginning to re-establish itself. Having made disappointing starts to the season, both now appear to be back to something approaching their best form, even if there is still some way to go before they can start thinking in terms of championships.

On a day when the Italian League played up to its defensive reputation by producing 13 goals from eight games, Juventus's one — scored in the first minute by Magrin — was enough to give them victory over Ascoli and lift them to third place in the table, three points behind the leaders, Napoli.

The other results worked out

## AMERICAN FOOTBALL

## Saints in line for play-offs

By Robert Kirley

The New Orleans Saints used to be synonymous with utility: founded as a National Football League club in 1967, they failed to win more games than they lost in each of 20 seasons. During the 1980 campaign, when the Saints won one game and lost 15, many of their supporters took to wearing paper bags on their heads in mock embarrassment. The team was ridiculed as the "Ain'ts", as in "they ain't a football team".

At long last, the Saints are a football team. On Sunday they defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers for their eighth win of the season, assuring them of their first successful season. With four games remaining in a strike-shortened season, New Orleans are in a prime position to participate in the play-offs.

Sterling defense in the final minutes of the game powered the Saints on Sunday. Anderson kicked two field goals, Mayes scored on a five-yard run and Hebert threw a 19-yard pass to Martin to account for the New Orleans scoring.

The San Francisco 49ers, who are one win ahead of the Saints in the division, beat the Cleveland Browns 38-24 as Montana passed for 342 yards and four touchdowns, three to Rice.

The Indianapolis Colts, who, like the Saints, are vastly improved, beat the Houston Oilers 31-27 to remain on top of the American conference. East division. All five teams in the division were level on five wins and five defeats last week, but only the Colts, the Buffalo Bills and the New York Jets won on Sunday. Dickerson, the leading rusher in the American conference, ran for 136 yards and two touchdowns (19 and 13 yards) and Bentley caught two scoring passes to lead the Colts.

Schroeder, replacing the injured Williams at quarterback, completed three touchdowns passes in the second half to lead the Colts to a 27-10 victory over the New York Jets. The other semi-final, between Leeds and Wigan on December 12. The other semi-final, between Leeds and Wigan on December 12.

**RESULTS: St Louis Cardinals 34, Atlanta Braves 21; Boston Red Sox 10, Chicago Bears 23; Green Bay Packers 17, Indianapolis Colts 27; Houston Oilers 31, Pittsburgh Steelers 27; New England Patriots 31, New York Jets 27; Cincinnati Bengals 16, Los Angeles Rams 35; Tampa Bay Buccaneers 3, Denver Broncos 31; San Diego Chargers 17, Washington Redskins 23; Cleveland Browns 24, San Francisco 49ers 38.**

American Conference	W	L	D	F	P
East division					
Buffalo Bills	8	0	0	208	191
Indianapolis Colts	6	0	0	244	223
New York Jets	5	0	0	224	232
San Diego Chargers	5	0	0	223	231
New England Patriots	5	0	0	223	231
West division					
San Francisco 49ers	7	4	0	302	174
Los Angeles Rams	6	0	0	237	218
Green Bay Packers	5	0	0	223	231
Washington Redskins	5	0	0	223	231
Denver Broncos	5	0	0	223	231
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Washington Redskins	5	0	0	223	231
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